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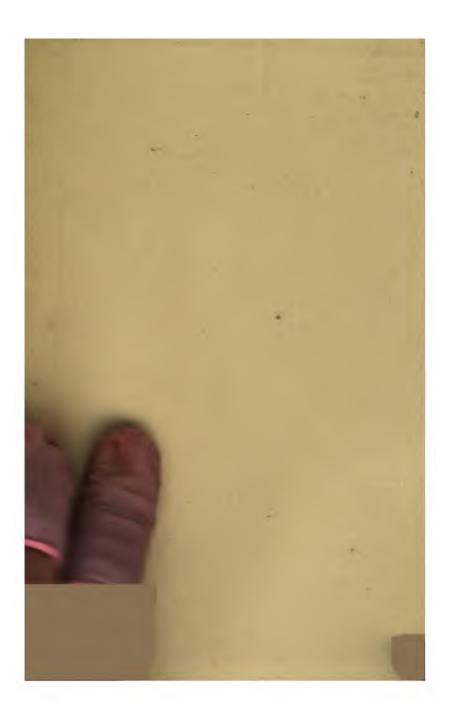
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THE FORTUNE TELLER. From a Painting by Hogarth.

### THE

# HISTORY OF KENNINGTON

AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD,

WITH

CHAPTERS ON CRICKET PAST AND PRESENT.

BY

H. H. MONTGOMERY, D.D.,

BISHOP OF TASMANIA

(FORMERLY VICAR OF KENNINGTON).

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# Pedicated to

### MISS EMILY LOUISA FURNELL,

An old and valued friend,
who first by the loan of a pamphlet
and afterwards by sustained interest
led to the inditing of
this little book.



### PREFACE.

This "History of Kennington" is in no sense a literary work. I have simply put together monthly papers which were originally written, in such time as could be spared, in the midst of Pastoral duties. Called to work in a distant land, I have had no time to recast the pages into a more adequate form. I have simply put them together, such as they were, for the sake of old friends who may care to possess, in one volume, facts which otherwise are scattered through five years of a Parish Magazine. I am indebted for my information to many old inhabitants: I beg them to accept my hearty thanks. Allen's "Lambeth" and Cassell's "Old and New London" have been often consulted. Mr. W. Syer Cuming, a born antiquary, has given me ungrudging assistance. Mr. Evanion has put masses of papers at my disposal. Mrs. Warwick has given me access to all her relics of Surrey Gardens. To Mr. Bursill I am indebted for the plates and for much information. The Surrey Club through Mr. Alcock, the genial secretary, has assisted me with the Cricket notes; and last, not least, I want to express my acknowledgments to Mr. H. Stacey Gold, for many useful hints and for having printed these collected papers in our Parish Magazine with unfailing punctuality, though often supplied with them by their author at inconvenient times, and at the last possible moment. Into his hand I deliver this little book, on my departure from England, being assured that his business capacity and great energy will bring it more circulation than it deserves. I fear that the profits will not make his fortune. I shall be thankful if this modest history may interest a fresh generation of the inhabitants of Kennington and its neighbourhood.

H. H. TASMANIA.

New Park, Moville. July, 1889.



## THE HISTORY OF KENNINGTON

### AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD.

### CHAPTER I.

### THE ROYAL PALACE.

THERE are usually persons in every neighbourhood who are interested in local history and chronicle facts gathered from the lips of old inhabitants which otherwise would be lost for ever. It is amazing how interesting almost every Parochial history can thus be made. The late Dean STANLEY never drove out in London without "Murray's Guide to London" by his side. He would mark the names of streets and look them out and learn something of their history. And when he travelled in England, he took with him the Guide books of the different Counties through which the railroad would go, and marked the names of stations in the same way. It was my privilege on one occasion in the South of France and in Spain, to have charge of the Guide book and to announce events of interest. I commend this plan to those who travel through England; I can assure them they will not find the longest journey tedious, and they will, in addition, return with a much richer knowledge of their own country and its associations.

What is the past history of Kennington?

What was its condition in the days before the Romans appeared in our Island?

It is probable that there was a vast bay here, which extended as far as the hills of Camberwell and Clapham, and doubtless at high tide the gulls and wading birds disported themselves over the sites of our present houses, whilst at low tide, great stretches of flat smooth land appeared. At a much earlier date still ocean waves beat upon the edges of the high ground. I have in my possession a piece of veritable old sea beach, a mass of pebbles immersed in sand. This was dug up out of a deep cutting made between Herne Hill and Norwood. Probably the Romans set to work to drain these acres and bring them into cultivation; but names which still exist, such as "Lambeth Marsh," show the state of the land up to much later days.

Among the gravel of this district there occur what are called "sand basins:" These are a rich field for the fossil hunter. Mr. W. Syer Cuming has shown me bones of elephants, boars, and hyenas, found in such basins in the neighbourhood of the Camberwell New Road.

The earliest fact upon which I can lay my hands is one of the strangest. It is the appearance of a fleet of war ships. In the year 1016, King Canute took his fleet through what is now our Parish. The facts are these—In the reign of Ethelred the Unready, the Danes made a determined attempt to conquer England, first under Sweyn, then under his son Canute. Ethelred was but a poor defender of his kingdom, as his nickname denotes. He died in 1014, and his son Edmund Ironsides came to the throne. In the absence of Edmund from London, Canute sailed up the Thames and tried to capture the City. The Danish King found it difficult to pass the fortifications in the river somewhere near London Bridge. He therefore widened a ditch, which ran south of the river, and took his ships through This ditch is supposed to have extended from the spot where Rotherhithe New Docks now are, through Newington Butts and Kennington, and joined the river again opposite Chelsea. shall have to tell of no stranger visitors than of those Danish war ships as they glided through the Parish, perhaps on some moonlight night, on their way to conquer London and King Edmund-long, low, black vessels they were, we are told, carrying perhaps a raven flag at the prow. They were sometimes 70-ft. long (some 10-ft. longer than one of our racing eights of this day, or a little longer than the distance between the wickets at cricket), flat bottomed, about 8 or 9-ft. wide, with sides made of oak boards fastened with bark ropes and iron bolts. Sometimes fifty men rowed them through the water whilst the hold of the vessel was piled up with the axes, lances and armour of the warriors. If you wish to make this period of history to live again for yourself, read Charles Kingsley's "Hereward the Wake." This here lived in the very days of Canute and Sweyn, and sailed back to England on one occasion in one of these very

ships which once paid us such a strange moonlight visit.

The Canal through which the fleet was led has existed, in parts, up to the present day. In the Parish of Newington there was a ditch known to many still living as "Canute's dyke." It seems to have been the same as a channel called the river "Tigris." In 1823 it was remembered as a clear stream of water, to which persons used to send for good water. The word Tigris means, I am told, in Celtic—"the clear" or "beautiful course." The area of the Parish in the days of Canute was partly covered by a rabbit warren, and in one old document it is stated that the manor of Kennington with its "conies," was leased to a gentleman.

After the visit of Canute's fleet, the next event of interest is the death of King Hardicanute. Canute had two sons, Harold and Hardicanute, who contended for the throne of England. Harold was crowned king first, but soon died, and Hardicanute succeeded him in 1040. The new king's first act was to dig up the body of his brother and throw it into the Thames. some fishermen found it and buried in the Churchyard of S. Clement Danes, which, as its name denotes, was an old Danish burying place just outside the walls of old London. In 1042 King Hardicanute came to a wedding feast at the Palace of Kennington. "Goda, the daughter of Osgod Clapa, an English Thane of great wealth, was given in marriage to Towid the proud, a powerful Dane, the king's banner bearer or marshal, and Hardicanute graced the banquet." Those were hard drinking days, when men vied with each other in their cups. The king drank so deeply on this occasion that he fell down senseless and died here a few days afterwards.

Where was this Royal Palace? and what is the meaning of the word Kennington? The word means "King's Town," and suggests that it was a royal residence. Now take your stand at Kennington Cross and face the present Tramway Stables just where Upper Kennington Lane joins Kennington Road. All along that row of houses, just where the stables stand, there used to be a royal palace. It was here that Hardicanute died: and after this, a legend tells us that Harold put the Crown upon his head, probably at this place after the death of Edward the Confessor, 1066. Those who wish to read a deeply interesting account of this period are referred to Bulwer Lytton's "Harold." I confess I should like to think that it was in our Parish that Edith lived—the betrothed of Harold.

Of course the Domesday Book has something to say about Kennington. The extract is interesting chiefly for the spelling of the name.

"Teodric, the goldsmith, holds of the King Chenintune. He held it of King Edward. It was then assessed for five hides—now for one hide and three virgates. The land is for two ploughs and a half. In demesne there is one plough: and (there are) four villanes and three bordars, with two ploughs. There is one serf, and four acres of meadow. It was worth, and is worth, three pounds."

There is hardly any description of the interior of the palace. I insert here the only notice I can discover: we learn from it

that the walls were painted green.

"One curious circumstance connected with the English Polychromy of the thirteenth century, is the propensity exhibited in all the royal records of the period, to use green as a preponderating colour. This fact was first, we believe, pointed out by the late lamented Mr. Hudson Turner, in his notices of "Domestic Architecture in England." He tells us (page 87, vol. i.) that "almost all the chambers of Henry III. were painted of a green colour, scintillated or starred with gold, on which ground subjects were sometimes painted in compartments or circles; as the history of the Old and New Testament, passages from the Lives of the Saints, figures of the Evangelists, and occasionally scenes taken from the favourite romances of the time." Mr. Turner supports his assertions by a copious citation of records, amongst the most quaint of which are the directions issued by the king in the 17th year of his reign, "to cause, that the chapel of our chamber (at the Palace at Kennington) be painted with histories, so that the field shall be of a green colour, stencilled with gold stars." &c. With this one notice we must be content.

I have mentioned a rabbit warren here; there were also several wells of mineral waters; one existed in what used to be called "Three Coney Walk" (in allusion I suppose to some ee famous representatives of the rabbit tribe); it is now called "Lambeth Walk:" and though there are more rabbits than ever there, I fear they come from Ostend. In the days of William III. the water of this well used to be sold for 1d. a quart and the advertisement adds quaintly, "being the same price paid by St. Thomas' Hospital." Further in the direction of the river there stood in the reign of King John a house belonging to Fulke de Breauté, a celebrated soldier in the pay of the King. It was called Fulke's Hall, and this came to be "Vauxhall." A mile or two up the river there was a low swampy island, round which streams or branches of the Thames flowed. This was called "S. Peter's Eye" or island, because it belonged to the Abbey Church of S. Peter, Westminster. S. Peter's Eye has now become "Battersea." On the other side of our Parish, very much where the Kennington Park Road and the Brixton Road now are, there ran a very celebrated Roman Road called Watling Street. It began at Richborough, in Kent, passed through Canterbury and Rochester and Dartford—the Church at Dartford is actually built across the road as a watchtower at the ford of the Dart. It passed through Old Croydon, Streatham, Kennington and Newington, Stone Street in Southwark, and over the river to Dowgate -on its way to Chester and Caernarvon. There was another Roman road which joined Watling Street in our neighbourhood. It was called Ermyn Street, and starting at Chichester, passed through Dorking and came through our Parish into Southwark.

There is a curious story connected with the death of Hardicanute. In the "Gentleman's Magazine" for 1790 (vol. 60), there is an engraving of a stone which for a twelvementh was exhibited in the window of a cutler's shop in the Blackfriars Road. It was said to have been found in Kennington Lane, and on it was inscribed in Saxon letters something like this—"Here Hardicanute stared and died." The allusion is to the death of the King after a drunken bout. There is no doubt that the stone was a forgery, and I mention it here lest any parishioner should ever fancy that he had become possessed of a genuine relic of olden days.

I have given my readers to understand that a stone with a forged inscription about Hardicanute had been exhibited in London. I have found however another most curious inscription taken from Allport's History of Camberwell (said to have been dug up!), and I offer it to my readers to decipher if they can, or at least to discover what language it can be written in.

To return to the true history of Kennington, there was, of course, a manor attached to the Palace, called the Manor of Kennington and distinct from the Manor of Lambeth. In a very old map of Kennington the soil of the southern half of the parish is called "pale clay," and the northern and greater part is entitled "strong dark clay and brick earth." There were curious customs attached to these manors. For instance, the neighbouring Manor of Lambeth was compelled to pay a strange rent. Gundulph, who was Bishop of Rochester (our own Diocese) in 1080, compelled Lambeth to send him and his clergy annually "half-a-thousand lampreys:" doubtless marshy Lambeth was easily able to rear this delicacy. Turning to our own Manor, I find the following interesting customs, which may still be law in cases where a person dies without having made his will:—

"If a copyholder dies, leaving two or more sons in life, the youngest son is heir to the father as to his copyhold."

"If a copyholder die without sons, having daughters, the land descends to all his daughters as co-heirs, and if he dies without sons and daughters, having brothers, the land descends

(A stone as discovered, though not very perfect).

BENE
AT HTH ISST
ONERE POSE ET
H CLAUD COSTERT
RIP : E SELLE ROF
IMP IN
GTONASDO
TH HISC O
NS O R
T . IA NE.
l

"ANDD IDY OUTH INK DE ARMA DAM TOP ERP LEX MEW ITHANENG LISHPRE TEN DEDINS CRIPT ION IHA VEBEEN CON VERS ANTHWITH PUZ ZLESAN DRIDD LESFR OMMY OUTH ICAN NOTM ISTAK EITFORA NANC IENTEPI TAPH DIDT HEEM PERORC LAUDI USCON CERN NHIM SELFWIT HTRIP E SELL ERS WA SIMP INGT ONE VER ARO MANC OLONY APLA INENG LISHM ANW OULD HA VEW TEN"

to the youngest brother, and if he dies without sons, daughters or brothers, having brothers' children living, the land descends to the youngest son of the youngest brother."

After the death of Harold our Palace is not mentioned for awhile, except in the Domesday Book; but doubtless those who lived here saw troublous times, suffering from the Conqueror's severity and the civil wars between King Stephen and Matilda. In the reign of Richard I. there is an entry showing that the King granted to Sir R. Percy custody of the demesne lands, &c., the "manor, coneys and garden." Percy was also allowed fourpence a day for the office of keeper out of the twenty marcs he paid to the King.

Again, later in our history, there is a record that Edward I. was at Kennington on August 14th, 1299, and held a Parliament there. Perhaps the character of no English King is more interesting than that of Edward I. He was the son of one of our weakest Kings (Henry III.), but he was himself one of the strongest of monarchs, and was married to one of the best loved of English Queens, Eleanor of Castile. It was for her sake that the choir of Westminster Abbey was built after the pattern of Spanish Cathedrals, where the transepts divide the altar from the choir, an arrangement not often seen in churches

It will be remembered that Hardicanute died in a drunken fit at the Palace in 1042. A very curious old custom has possibly had its origin in this event, though experts differ upon this point. Possibly some of us have heard of "Hoke-day," a holy day universally kept in olden days. A good account is given in Brand's antiquities (Bohn), Chambers' Book of Days and by Allen. Some say it was to commemmorate the great massacre of the Danes in 1002, in the reign of Ethelred, others that the day of Hardicanute's death was so kept because it brought to an end the Danish line of Kings. The Festival lasted two days—on Monday and Tuesday—generally about a fortnight after Easter. Monday was for the women, Tuesday for the men. On these days men and women guarded the public roads with ropes, and pulled all passers by over to them, and exacted ransom for their liberty "with great merriment." In the accounts of Magdalen College, Oxford, there was a yearly allowance paid "for women who went hoking." It was customary to bring the money thus obtained to the Churchwardens and to have it entered on the Parish books. The following are some of the entries from the Churchwardens' books of the Parish Church of Lambeth, as given by Allen: "1515.—Received of the men for oke money, 5/7. The wyffs for oke money, 15/1. 1619.—The men 3/9. The Churchwardens' wyffs on Hoke Monday, 8/3. 1521.—Received of my lady, of Norfollke, of Hoke money, 32/3\frac{1}{2}. 1554.—Received of John Brasy's wyff money that she received and gathered with the virgins, 5/6, etc." The money so collected was used for the repairs of the Church: The holy day began to fall into disuse about the time of the Reformation.

in England. We hope good Queen Eleanor came to Kennington Palace also to curb, if possible, her husband's fiery temper and furious bursts of anger. It was about the year 1294, five years before he is mentioned as coming to Kennington, that he demanded from the clergy half their annual income in taxes, "and so terrible was his wrath at their resistance that the Dean of S. Paul's, who stood forth to remonstrate, dropped dead of sheer terror at his feet" (Green's History). And yet this fiery King was given to sudden changes of feeling. He once stood in Westminster Hall to meet his Parliament, and "owned with a burst of tears that he had taken their substance without due warrant of law" (Green). Such a King met just such a

Parliament in our own parish in 1299.

Edward I. and his Queen Eleanor died, and were buried in Westminster Abbey: you can see their tombs there and the effigy of Queen Eleanor. Their grandson, Edward III., seems to have taken a deep interest in our Manor. It was in his reign that the Duchy of Cornwall was created, and Edward the Black Prince, the first Duke of Cornwall, lived in Kennington Palace. In 1339 the young Prince, then only ten years old, affixed his name here to many documents which still exist. It was this Prince who won the ostrich feathers as his crest at Crecy, and doubtless they appeared first as a well known sight in our parish. This gallant Prince never came to the Throne, dying before his father in 1376. Richard, as a little boy, took up his residence here with his mother Joan. There are two streets which by their names carry us back to these days. Prince's Road is the way which was used by the Black Prince when he went by the river to his There is still a public-house there called "The Black Prince." The son of the Black Prince, Richard (afterwards Richard II.) took as his crest "a white hart," or stag. And thus it comes to pass that "Whitehart Street" is a memorial of another king of England. It is likely that all the "Whitehart Inns." though they may not be as old, yet take their names from the crest of Richard. Privileged visitors to Westminster Abbev may view in a part of that building not open to the public—the Muniment Room—a fresco of a white stag lying down, which many persons believe was painted in the days of Richard II. On a bright day perhaps anyone may see it; he must stand at the spot where "Poet's Corner" joins the main aisle and look over the south-west wall of Poet's Corner: there on a part of the

Abbey wall above and behind the monument of Handel, "the white hart" is sometimes visible.

There have been many strange sights in Kennington. One of the most curious must have been a procession which came to the Palace to do honour to the young Prince Richard. It will put my readers in mind of a Lord Mayor's Show. I will give the account in the words of "Stow," quoted in Brayley's Surrey, edited by E. Walford. I have changed the spelling to suit our own ways.

"In the night 130 citizens, disguised and well-horsed in a mummery, with sound of trumpets, sackbuts, cornets, shawms and other minstrels, and innumerable torch lights of wax, rode from Newgate through Cheape, over the Bridge through Southwark, and to Kennington beside Lambeth. In the first rank did ride 48 in the likeness of Esquires, two and two together, clothed in red coats and gowns "of Say or Sendall," with comely visors on their faces. After them came riding 48 Knights in the same livery, of colour and stuffe. Then followed one richly arrayed like an Emperor; after him some distance, "one stately tyred" like a Pope, who was followed by 24 Cardinals, and after them eight or ten, not amiable, as if they had been "Legates from some forraine Prince." These Maskers, after they had entered the Manor of Kennington, alighted from their horses, and entered the hall on foot, which done, the Prince, his Mother, and the Lords came out of the chamber into the hall, whom the mummers did salute, showing by a pair of dice on the table their desire to play with the Prince, which they so handled that the Prince did always win when he cast at them. Then the mummers set to the Prince three Jewels, one after another, which were "a Boule of Gold, a Cuppe of Gold, and a Ringe of Gold, which the Prince wonne at three casts. Then they set to the Prince's Mother, the Duke, the Earles and other Lords, to every one a Ringe of Gold, which they did also winne, after which they were feasted, and the musicke sounded. The Prince and the Lords daunced on the one part with the mummers who did also daunce; which jolity being ended, they were again made to drinke, and then departed in order as they came."

The next party who came to Kennington from the City rode to the Palace for different reasons. Richard ascended the throne on June 22nd, 1377; and in the same year his Uncle, John of Gaunt (these characters are made to live for us in Shakespear's "Richard II"), fled to the Palace from the wrath of the citizens of

London. He and Sir Henry Percy had been protecting no less a person than John Wiclif from the fury of the Londoners. The citizens (we are told) searched for these two gentlemen at the Savoy: but they, hearing of the attack, took a boat and came

to Kennington where they were safe.

Nearly 20 years after this another procession came through Kent to our Palace, and it has a pathetic interest. In 1396, Richard II. married again (the person lying by his side in Westminster Abbey is his first wife, Ann of Bohemia). In the above year, there came in great pomp his betrothed Queen, Isabel of France, and slept at Kennington Palace. She was but eight years old. The next day she passed over London Bridge on her way to the Tower. As the procession crossed the Bridge, so great was the crush of persons to see the new Queen that nine persons were killed in the crowd, and among them, we are told, the Prior of

Tiptree, in Essex, and a Matron who lived on Cornhill.

Just as we find in Richard's reign that John of Gaunt fled to Kennington to escape from the citizens of London after defending Wiclif, so in the next reign we are told that when Henry IV. was living here, a large body of clergy come to tell the king of their grievances regarding the Lollards, and especially with respect to Sir John Oldcastle. One word about this well-known man. He is almost better known as Lord Wiclif had no stronger supporter than Sir John, who paid the expenses of a great number of itinerant preachers, and so gave a great impetus to the cause. This awakened the deep resentment of the Clergy who appeared at Kennington to denounce the Lollard. Henry IV., however, did not proceed against him: but in the next reign he was imprisoned in the Tower, escaped, and fled into Wales, and there hid himself for four years; the tale of his hardships and narrow escapes is most affecting. At length he was arrested and put to death in S. Giles' Fields, 1417, just two years after Westminster Abbey was completed, and about the time that Whittington was Lord Mayor of London (but I suppose his cat was dead). I pass on now to the time of Henry VII., for although visits are on record from Henry VI. to this Palace, there is nothing of particular importance to relate. But it is interesting to read that soon after the battle of Bosworth, where Richard III. was killed, the new King, Henry VII., came to Kennington and used the Palace as a resting place just before his coronation in the Abbey. The historian (Stow's Chronicle) says that on the eve of S. Simon and

S. Jude, October 27,—"he came from Kennington unto Lambeth and there dined with Thomas Bourchier, Archbishoppe of Canterburie: and after dinner with a goodly companie of the estates of this realm both spirituall and temporall, from thence went by land towards London, his nobles riding after the guise of France upon small hackneies, two and two upon a horse: and at London Bridge end the Mayor of London with his brethren and the craftes, met and received the King, and the King proceeded to Grace Church corner, and so to the Tower" (quoted in Brayley's Surrey).

This notice is interesting because it brings us almost to the end of the old Palace as it was originally built. In the next reign, however, Catherine of Arragon stayed at Kennington for a few nights as the betrothed bride of the Prince of Wales. She married in 1502 Arthur, eldest son of Henry VII: and those who will look into S. Margaret's Church, next the Abbey, will see in the beautiful East window the figures of Catherine and Arthur one on each side. The window was originally meant for the Abbey and was a present to the King from the Burgesses of Dort, in Holland: how it came to be put up in S. Margaret's is too long a story to tell here. Suffice it to say that when Catherine slept in Kennington Palace she was 18, and her proposed husband only 16. The poor young bridegroom only lived a few months; and then Catherine was betrothed to Henry afterwards Henry VIII. At the time of the betrothal Henry was only 11 years of age.

After this the old Palace was allowed to fall into ruins: in fact Camden, writing in the latter part of Queen Elizabeth's reign says that "of this retreat of our ancient kings, neither the name nor the ruins are now to be found" (quoted by Brayley); but this can hardly be very accurate. Our Parish however must have been at this time a very happy place for a sportsman. In the fifth year of Queen Elizabeth a licence was granted to Andrew Perne, D.D., Dean of Ely (who resided in Stockwell), to appoint one of his servants, by special name, to shoot with any crossbow, hand-gonne, hacquebut, or demy-hack, at all manner of dead marks, at all manner of crows, rooks, cormorants, kytes, puttocks, and such like, bustards, wyld swans, barnacles, and all manner of sea fowls and fen fowls, wild doves, small birds, teals, coots, ducks, and all manner of deare, fallow

and roo." (Allen.)

### CHAPTER II

### THE MANOR HOUSE OF KENNINGTON.

In the next reign, that of James I., we read that the King settled the Manors of Kennington and Vauxhall upon his eldest son, Henry, Prince of Wales, in 1611, and upon the death of Henry, the Manors devolved upon Prince Charles, afterwards Charles I. From this period the estate has continued to be the property of the Princes of Wales as Dukes of Cornwall: previous to this date the King held the Manors in his own hands.



THE LONG BARN.

I believe that the old Palace had now fallen out of repair, and that the only habitable part of these premises was the "Long Barn."

The Long Barn was the last surviving part of the outhouses of the Old Palace. It was a kind of stable 231-ft. long and 156-ft. deep, and was not pulled down till 1795.

The Manor of Kennington was surveyed in 1615: it then was aid to contain 122 acres, 8 of them being rabbit warren, let at

£71 5s. 4d. a year: and the Prince's Meadow  $29\frac{1}{2}$  acres, at £61 13s. 4d. (Allen).

We now come to two famous names in connection with Kennington, Sir Noel Caron and Francis Lord Cottington. The former was the Dutch Ambassador to the Court of England for 28 years, in the reigns of Elizabeth and James I. The latter was an intimate friend of Prince Charles.

James I. granted a lease of part of the Manor of Kennington to Sir Noel Caron, dating from Michaelmas, 1616, at the rent of £16 10s. 9d., and Prince Charles held another part, doubtless the side next the new Manor House: while Sir Noel, whose house stood where Mr. Beaufoy's distillery now stands, probably took the grounds of the old ruined Palace. In 1624, Prince Charles granted to Francis Lord Cottington, his Secretary, a lease for 18 years, to commence from 1637, when Sir Noel's lease expired: but in 1649, the Parliament sold the Manor to Richard Graves, Esq., of Lincoln's Inn.

In 1624, Prince Charles (afterwards Charles I.) let it to Francis Lord Cottington. It is possible perhaps, to explain the reason of this favour. In 1617, a match was proposed between Charles and Mary, second daughter of Philip III. of Spain. No very definite steps however were taken till 1622, two years before Kennington came into the hands of Cottington. King James was eager to promote the match; the rank of the bride was very high, and besides this, there was the prospect of an enormous dowry.

In 1622, it was suggested by the young Duke of Buckingham (Steenie) that Charles and he should pay a visit to Madrid incognito, passing through France and Spain under feigned names. It was a most romantic idea and was actually carried into Not a word about the matter was mentioned to the English ambassador at Madrid, Lord Bristol; Buckingham wished to take credit for the whole matter himself. first and most difficult step was to gain the consent of King James; for undoubtedly the enterprise was dangerous; the King is answerable in some sense to his people for the safety of his heir, and besides the usual dangers of a journey as private individuals, who could tell whether France or Spain might not seize upon the Prince of Wales and hold him prisoner for political purposes, as Richard the First was treated in earlier days? The King was forced to give his consent, chiefly, as it seems to me, by the insolence of Buckingham. And then Sir Francis Cottington was summoned to the Palace to give his opinion and

to accompany the two young men, since he had spent many years in Spain and knew the language well. The King addressed Cottington thus "Here is Baby Charles and Stenny, who have a great mind to go by post into Spain, and fetch home the Infanta, and will have but two more in their company, and have chosen you for one; what think you of the journey?" Cottington used to say that when his opinion was thus asked, he trembled so violently that he could hardly find his voice to speak. But he gave an honest opinion and spoke strongly against the adventure; the King however had given his consent; and accordingly Buckingham and Charles disguised themselves and started for Dover as Mr. John Smith and Mr. Thomas Smith. incidents at the commencement of their journey almost spoilt the whole affair. The ferryman who rowed them across the Thames at Gravesend had a gold piece given him, and he, supposing they were two youg men bent upon fighting a duel, gave information about them; and the two were brought before the Mayor of Canterbury. They were obliged to inform this gentleman who they really were and then were allowed to proceed on their way. But again near Rochester they suddenly found themselves on the point of meeting the French Ambassador and all his retinue: they only escaped by leaping the hedge and hiding in the neighbouring field until the company had passed. Cottington met the two young men at Dover and accompanied them the rest of the way. At Paris they attended a masked ball at Court and there Charles saw for the first time the Princess he eventually married. The only person who recognised Charles was an English maid servant who had seen him in London.

On March 23rd, 1623, the travellers reached Madrid, and presented themselves before their Ambassador, as John and Thomas Smith. The people of Madrid were delighted at the adventure, and James did all he could to make his son acceptable to the Spaniards. In a letter written on March 27th, 1623, James thus expresses himself "I send you the robes of the Order (of the Garter) which you must not forget to wear on S. George's Day, and dine together in them, for it will be a goodly sight for the Spaniards to see my two boys dine in them . . . . . God bless you both my sweet boys, and send you, after a successful journey, a joyful and happy return to the arms of your dear dad. James Rex."

The marriage with the Infanta was never consummated after all; but Cottington was naturally taken into favour afterwards, and in the next year after the return from Spain, he became the tenant of Kennington Manor. Francis Lord Cottington lies buried in Westminster Abbey in S. Paul's Chapel. Clarendon thus writes the character of one who must often have lived in our Parish. "A very wise man, by the great and long experience he had in business of all kinds; and by his natural temper, which was not liable to any transport of anger, or any other passion, but could bear contradiction, and even reproach, without being moved, or put out of his way, for he was very steady in pursuing what he proposed to himself; he was . . . . very easy to live with; and under a grave countenance, covered the most of mirth. He never used anybody ill, but used many very well for whom he had no regard; his greatest fault was that he could dissemble, and make men believe that he loved them very well, when he cared not for them . . . . He left behind him a greater esteem of his parts than love to his person." (See Stanley's Memorials of the Abbey.)

Lord Cottington, of course, lost his rights over Kennington when the Long Parliament held London, and when Charles was banished from the capital. In 1649, the Manor was sold as previously stated, to Richard Graves, Esq., of Lincoln's Inn. Coming to the outskirts of the Manor at this period, it is interesting to hear that in 1642, a fort had been erected close to Vauxhall Cross, to defend the roads leading from this part of Surrey into Middlesex, against the Royalists. It is called "a quadrant fort, with four half bulwarks," part of it was visible as late as 1786. In May and June, 1643, the following notices appeared in the public papers about these fortifications and their surroundings.

"May 8th.—The work in the fields to trench the City, goes on amain. Many thousands of men, women, and servants, go out daily to work: and this day there went out a great company of the Common Council, and divers other chief men of the City, with the greatest part of the trained bands, with spades, shovels, pickaxes, etc.

May 9th.—This day many thousands of citizens, their wives and families went out to dig, and all the porters in and about the City, to the number of 2000.

May 23rd.—Five thousand felt-makers and cappers went to work at the trenches, near 3000 porters, etc.; it was wonderful to see how the women and children, and vast numbers of people, would come and work about digging and carrying of earth to make their new fortifications." (Allen's history, page 355).

In 1660, at the restoration of Charles II., Kennington became the King's property again; and in 1661, Jan. 26th, it was let to Lord Moore, afterwards Lord Drogheda. About this period I find an account in 1684, of a very hard winter, of a frost which continued from Jan. 1st, to Feb. 8th. On Jan. 9th, Mr. Evelyn says in his diary that he walked across the ice from Westminster stairs to Lambeth, and dined with the Archbishop, afterwards returning across the ice to the Horseferry. But on Feb. 5th, the ice was so firm that he was able to cross in his coach from Lam-

beth to the Horseferry at Millbank.

The last point of interest connected with the site of the old In this year "the Long Palace brings us to the year 1706. Barn," which is represented in the cut on page 18, was utilised as a kind of temporary workhouse for the reception of a large number of foreigners. They were called "the Palatine Protestors." The Palatinate is a province bordering on the Rhine. Its name was very familiar to Englishmen in the reign of Elizabeth the only surviving daughter of James, married the Elector Frederick, Count Palatine of the Rhine; she was a very excellent person, but her husband wasted his fortune and lost his kingdom, and Elizabeth was at times an outcast and a wanderer without home or money until she came back to live in England. The Palatinate Provinces welcomed thousands Huguenots when they were driven out of France by Louis XIV. That most despotic King announced to his Protestant subjects "his Majesty will not suffer any person in his kingdom but those who are of his religion." Consequently some of the best of his countrymen fled across the frontier. settled in the Palatine Provinces and found there that liberty of conscience which was denied them in France. reign of our Queen Ann, Louis XIV. of France invaded these Rhine provinces, and again these poor refugees and others with them, had to fly. Thousands of them came to England, and in an old history of the reign of Queen Ann (lent me by Mr. Cuming), I find the following account of these wanderers about the year 1709.

"This summer were brought over from Holland six or seven thousand poor people, who were recommended as great objects of charity, having been driven out of their country as they said by the French; and in order to excite the charity of well disposed people they were called Protestants, though many of them appeared to be Papists. These poor wretches had certainly

received great encouragement from the then Ministry to come over hither and were accordingly provided for by the Government. Tents were delivered them out of the Tower, and they encamped on Blackheath, and in a large field near Camberwell, where the Citizens made them charitable visits and raised money for them; most of the Bishops in their Dioceses exhorted their people to give liberally to them. But it seems the murmers of our own poor grew so loud, that it was thought convenient afterwards to send some of them back again, and others to Ireland, and the Plantations." Allen in his history of Lambeth says that a great many of these poor people were lodged in the Long Barn of Kennington.

There is not much more to chronicle about the actual old Palace and its site. In 1720, this place gave the title of Earl to William Augustus Duke of Cumberland, second son of George II., but as he died without children in 1765, the title soon became extinct, and the Earl of Kennington only existed about 40 years.

It is likely that during the reign of James I. "the Manor House," that was standing within a few years of the present date, was built. It is natural that there should be some confusion between "the old Palace in the Manor of Kennington" and "the Manor House." Some persons have thought that the old Palace where the Black Prince lived was in Lower Kennington Lane, but that is undoubtedly a mistake; it is not a matter about which there can be a doubt because of the records and maps in the office of the Duchy of Cornwall. "The Manor House" seems to have been erected to take the place of the old ruined Palace as a kind of Royal Residence.

In 1875 this old and interesting house was pulled down. I think there is no doubt that Charles I. lived here when he was Prince of Wales. The house was built with taste: I have seen fragments of plaster leaves which adorned the ceiling of one of the rooms. Very great labour has been expended upon the work, for each of the leaves was moulded and fixed separately. It was a house of "plain dull red brickwork, three stories in height above the basement, and slightly V shaped on plan. The parapet was formed of plain battlements: and at one angle the walls were carried up somewhat higher than the rest, thus forming the appearance of a low tower." ("Journal of British Archæological Association"). There are said to have been two secret passages under the ground, leading, one to the old Palace and another to the Thames near Lambeth stairs. A lady tells



DOORWAY OF MANOR HOUSE.

me that when the Manor House was pulled down in 1875 she saw in the kitchen a large stone in the floor which was evidently meant to be taken up. The housekeeper told her that on one occasion she had several charwomen in the house and they were expressing curiosity about the subterranean passage; having occasion to go out she begged them not to take up the stone for fear the bad air below might injure them. It will appear to most of us that the worthy lady could not have taken a surer way of making them search every hole and corner in the building: when she returned she found the stone raised and the women almost insensible from the effects of the air which had ascended from below; or possibly the women had attempted to explore the passage and had found it too much for their strength. Other persons have told me that they had seen in the street, when it was being taken up, signs of something that might have been the old passage.

There is a survey of Kennington Manor House dated 1649, made by the Long Parliament, which some have taken to refer to the old Palace. Allen in his history of Lambeth takes this for granted: but there can be no doubt that the old Palace had disappeared with the exception of the Long Barn: and the survey must refer to the Manor House in Lower Kennington Lane used as a residence by Charles I. A memorandum in it says "The sayd mano' or mansion house is in good tenantable repayre, and

is valued in the materialls at £150. The customs of the Manor are signed, Nov. 28th, 1728, by Matthew Lant, Esq., "Lord Chief Baron of that part of Great Britain called Scotland, the present steward." This is interesting because I suppose it gives the reason for the name of Lant Street in the Borough named after the Steward of the Manor. There is not much that I can discover about the occupants of the house. In 1799 till about 1820 Mr. S. Davis, a cooper by trade, lived here. His place of business was in Mermaid's Court, Borough. In 1823 a ladies' school inhabited the house: it was kept by Mrs. Robinson. In 1831, the girls seem to have given way to boys, for a Mr. Humble was the head master of a boys' school. Finally the old Manor House was called "Manor Hall" and became the residence for the Royal Female Philanthropic Society, a Refuge for women. The Secretary was Samuel Vaughan, Esq., and Mrs. Brooks was lady superintendent in 1862. In 1875 the house was pulled down altogether: some say the fine broad staircase was taken by the East family, lords of the Manor, for re-erection at their country place in Berkshire, but I have not traced this.

Reedworth Street now marks the site of the old building. I may conclude my sketch of it by quoting the account of its past history as given to Mr. Cuming by the caretaker before the house was demolished. He used to say: "This house is 500 years old; it was built by Edward the Black Prince: William the Conqueror lived here: Oliver Cromwell was taken away from here to be hanged: Guy Fawkes had the place afterwards!"



#### CHAPTER III.

### KENNINGTON COMMON.

Kennington Common seems originally to have been part of a larger space of open ground which is now built over. adjoined S. George's fields which stretched to the present Bethlem Hospital. That neighbourhood also has its own history to which we must return in due time. The Common proper lay close to the courses of two famous Roman roads—"Watling Street," started from Richborough in Kent and passed through Croydon, Streatham and Kennington on its way to Chester and Carnarvon. It must have followed here, I suppose, the route now called Brixton Road and the Kennington Park Road: and a very common sight to persons on the site of our Park must have been in those days the martial array of Roman legions passing Another Roman highway must have almost on to London. touched this plot of ground: "Ermyn Street" began at Chichester and traversing Dorking, came through our present Parish into Southwark. I can tell of no prominent events of very old days on the Common. Though S. George's Fields are often mentioned in connection with Jack Cade, and Guy Fawkes and other personages, the little Common is unnoticed till the middle of the last century. The extent of it was about 20 acres. Allen in his book quotes from an old report which says "at present it is common to all cattle without stint, belonging to those Parishioners who reside within the Prince of Wales' liberty whose property it is, who pay a certain stipend per head; the sum goes towards defraying those expenses which the keeping up of the fence, etc., necessarily incurs. It is shut during the winter six months and opens again in spring: but it is no sooner opened than the number of the cattle turned in is so great, that the herbage is soon devoured, and it remains entirely bare the rest of the season." From this it may be concluded that it was a barren and uninviting spot fitted in some degree for the horrors which I am now about to relate.

Most of my readers will have heard often of the attempt of Charles Edward Stuart, in 1745, to regain the English crown, and how, after advancing as far as Carlisle, he retired and was completely defeated in his aims. A small force of the adherents of the Stuarts had been left in Carlisle, their leader believing

that it would be safe because the English army had no siege This proved to be altogether a mistake: for the Duke of Cumberland invested the town and speedily captured it. Among the prisoners made on that occasion were some English officers of the Manchester Regiment, and upon them was turned all the wrath of Cumberland, who strangely enough had been made "Earl of Kennington." The remainder of the sad story I give in the words of Jesse in his "Memoirs of the Pretenders."— "The names of these unfortunate gentlemen, who were nine in number, were Francis Townly, who commanded the Regiment, George Fletcher, Thomas Chadwick, James Dawson, Thomas Deacon, John Berwick, Andrew Blood, Thomas Syddal, and They were tried in the Court-house of S. David Morgan. Margaret, Southwark, on the 15th day of July and the three following days, and were all ordered for execution. their brother officers, who were condemned at the same time, The whole of these gallant but ill-fated received reprieves. men met their end with the greatest firmness, remaining true to their principles to the last. About eleven o'clock on the 30th of July, they were conveyed in three hurdles from the New Gaol, Southwark, to Kennington Common, attended by a strong guard of soldiers. In the first hurdle or sledge were Colonels Blood and Berwick, the executioner sitting by them holding a drawn sword. All the horrors which had been contrived in a barbarous age as a punishment for high treason were actually carried out on this occasion in their most terrible shape. Near the gallows were placed a block and a large heap of faggots: the former to assist the hangman in his bloody task of disembowelling and beheading the prisoners, and the latter for burning their hearts and entrails. While the prisoners were being transferred from their several sledges into the cart from which they were to be turned off, the faggots were set on fire, and the soldiers then formed a circle round the place of execution. Though unattended by a Clergyman, they spent about an hour in devotion, Morgan taking upon himself the task of reading prayers, to which the others calmly but fervently responded. On rising from their knees, they threw some written papers among the spectators, which were afterwards found to contain the most ardent professions of attachment to the cause for which thev suffered, and a declaration that they continued true to their principles to the last. They also severally delivered papers of a similar import to the Sheriffs, and then throwing down their

gold laced hats, they submitted themselves to the tender mercies of the hangman. Their behaviour is said to have been in every way suitable to their unhappy circumstances, being perfectly calm and composed, yet displaying no unseemly indifference to the awful fate which awaited them. Syddal alone is said to have been observed to tremble when the halter was being placed round his neck. While the executioner was pinioning his arms, he lifted up his eyes, exclaiming, 'O Lord, help me.' After having hung about three minutes, Colonel Townly, who still exhibited signs of life, was the first who was cut down, and having been stripped of his clothes, was laid on the block, and his head severed from his body. The executioner then extracted his heart and entrails, which he threw into the fire: and in this manner, one by one, proceeded to the disgusting task of beheading and disembowelling the bodies of the remaining eight. When the heart of the last, which was that of James Dawson, was thrown into the fire, the executioner cried out in a loud tone, 'God save King George!' to which a part of the assembled crowd are said to have responded with a loud shout. Generally speaking, however, the fate of these gallant gentlemen excited a deserved and laudable commiseration. As soon as the horrible ceremony was entirely completed, the bodies of the sufferers were carried back to the prison from whence they came. Three days afterwards, the heads of Townly and Fletcher were exposed on Temple Bar, while those of Deacon, Berwick, Chadwick and Syddal were placed in spirits, in order to be affixed on conspicuous places in Manchester and Carlisle. The name of James Dawson (who, it will be remembered, was the last of the unhappy sufferers) may recall an affecting incident connected with his tragical fate. He was a cadet of a respectable family in Lancashire: had been educated at S. John's College, Cambridge; and had recently formed an attachment for a young lady of handsome fortune and of a good family. Had he been acquitted at his trial, or had the royal elemency been extended to him, the day of his release was to have been the day of his nuptials. When at length his fate was decided upon, neither the arguments nor entreaties of her relatives could dissuade the young girl from being a witness of the execution. Accordingly, attended by a female friend, and by a gentleman who was nearly related to her, she entered a hackney coach and followed the sledge. Contrary to the forebodings of her friends she bore all the terrible scenes with calmness; but when all was over, she threw herself back in the coach, and exclaiming, 'My dear, I follow thee! I follow thee! Sweet Jesus, receive both our souls together.' She fell upon the neck of her companion and expired almost as the last word escaped from her mouth."

A Ballad, well known in those days, was composed on this event by Shenstone:—

### Song-"JEMMY DAWSON.-by Shenstone.

Young Dawson was a gallant youth, A brighter never trod the plain: And well he loved one charming maid, And dearly was he loved again.

But curse on party's hateful strife, That led the favoured youth astray: The day the rebel clans appeared, Oh! had he never seen that day!

With faltering voice she weeping said, Oh! Dawson, monarch of my heart! Think not that death shall end our loves,

For thou and I will never part.

But though, dear youth, thou should'st be dragged

To yonder ignominious tree,
Thou shalt not want a faithful friend
To share thy bitter fate with thee.

Oh! then her mourning coach was called,

The sledge moved slowly on before: Though borne in her triumphal car, She had not loved her favourite more.

She followed him, prepared to view
The terrible behests of law:
And the last scene of Jemmy's woes
With calm and stedfast eye she saw.

'Amid those unrelenting flames
She bore this constant heart to see:
But when 'twas mouldered into dust,
Now, now, she cried, I follow thee.

My death, my death alone can shew The pure and lasting love I bore: Accept O heaven, of woe like ours, And let us, let us weep no more.

The dismal scene was o'er and past,
The lover's mournful hearse retired:
The maid drew back her languid head,
And sighing forth his name, expired.

There seems to be no question that these executions and those which followed them, took place on the very spot where our Church (S. Mark's) now stands; and here the gallows for the County of Surrey were erected.

But to conclude the account of the executions of 1745. About three weeks after the occurrences mentioned above, three of the Scottish officers who had been captured at Carlisle—James Nicholson, Walter Ogilvie and Donald Macdonald—were also executed on Kennington Common on August 22nd. It is said that they came dressed in full Highland costumes and presented a gallant appearance. They spent an hour in prayer and then bravely accepted their fate which was the same in all respects as that of the English officers, except that their bodies

were permitted to hang for fifteen minutes instead of three, before they were mangled and cut up. Once more, on November 28th, in the same year, five more gentlemen were executed; John Hamilton, Governor of Carlisle, who had signed its capitulation; Alexander Leith, an old man: Sir John Wedderburn, Bart., who had taken charge of the excise in the time of the insurrection; Andrew Wood, a boy, and James Bradshaw. These persons were in prison and were yet uncertain what their fate would be, when at nine o'clock on the very day of their death, the gaolers came to say that the Sheriffs were approaching to lead them to execution. This was their first notification of their sentence. They were conducted to Kennington Common. Before their execution they made a statement. I give it here:

"A true copy of the Paper read by Mr. James Bradshaw, and delivered by him to the Sheriff of Surrey, just before his execution at Kennington Common, on Friday, November 28, 1746.

"It would be a breach of duty in me to omit this last opportunity of doing justice to those who stand in need of it; and I think it incumbent upon me, the rather because I am the only Englishman, in this part of the world who had the honour to attend his Royal Highness in Scotland. When I first joined the King's forces I was induced to it by a principle of duty only, and I never saw any reason since to convince me that I was in the least mistaken. But, on the contrary, every day's experience has strengthened my opinion, that I did what was right and necessary.

"After the battle of Culloden I had the misfortune to fall into the hands of the most ungenerous enemy that, I believe ever assumed the name of a soldier—I mean the pretended Duke of Cumberland and those under his command, whose inhumanity exceeded anything I could have imagined in a country where the bare mention of a God is allowed of.

"I was put into one of the Scotch kirks, together with a great number of wounded prisoners who were stripped naked and then left to die of their wounds without the least assistance; and though we had a surgeon of our own, a prisoner in the same place, yet he was not permitted to dress their wounds, but his instruments were taken from him on purpose to prevent it; and in the consequence of this, many expired in the utmost agonies. Several of the wounded were put on board the Jean of Leith, and there died in lingering tortures. Our general allowance while we were prisoners there was half-a-pound of meal a day, which

was sometimes increased to a pound, but never exceeded it, and I, myself, was an eye witness that great numbers were starved to death. Their barbarity extended as far as not to suffer the men who were put on board the Jean to lie down even on planks, but they were obliged to sit on large stones, by which means their legs swelled as big almost as their bodies. These are some few of the cruelties exercised, which being almost incredible in a Christian country, I am obliged to add an asseveration to the truth of them; and I do assure you upon the words of a dying man, as I hope for mercy at the Day of Judgment, I assert nothing but what I know to be true.

This extract (the original is about twice as long) will explain why the Duke of Cumberland was called "The butcher of Culloden." I think we may have no doubt about the truth of Mr. Bradshaws testimony.

They then bravely met their end, praying fervently for "James the Third" with their latest breath. They also were drawn and quartered like the others.

Again, here is an extract dating back to 1678, about an execution, the last, I should imagine, of its kind on our Common.

"Warning for bad wives, or the manner of the Burning of Sarah Elston, who was burnt to death at the Stake of Kennington Common, for the murder of her husband."

"On the day of the execution Sarah Elston was clothed all in white, with a vast mulitude of people attending her, and after very solemn prayers offered on the said occasion, the fire was kindled, and giving two or three lamentable shrieks, she was deprived both of voice and life, and so burnt to ashes."

THE LAST EXECUTION ON THE COMMON.—There were, in past times, in South London, three places of execution.—S. Thomas-a-Watering in the Old Kent Road: secondly, that part of Kennington Common where S. Mark's Church now stands, formerly called "Gallows Green:" and thirdly, Horsemonger Lane Gaol. The last person executed on the Common was Badger, who was convicted of forgery, in the early part of this Century.

Mr. Richard Watts, for many years Organist at S. George's, Southwark, was a witness of the following incident:—Badger was a prosperous man of business, and moved in good society. and was an officer in the local Volunteer corps. He lived in a large house near Camberwell Green where he frequently gave musical parties. One night when the guests were all assembled the servant came up to the master of the house and announced the fact there were two gentlemen in the hall who wished to speak with him. Mr. Badger descended to the front door and there found that the two gentlemen were Bow Street officers sent to arrest him on a charge of forgery. Badger informed them that he had a large party of friends in the house at that moment, and represented that it would be most inconvenient to himself, and a great shock to his family and his friends were he to be arrested at the moment. He asked if they would consent to remain in the house until the party broke up, when he would at once accompany them. The two officers consented to wait till the close of the party on condition that Mr. Badger did not leave their presence on any account. They were then actually introduced to the company as two City friends of the host, who had unexpectedly come to the house and whom he had prevailed upon to join the party. Badger kept up his spirits and did his duty so well that no one suspected the truth: he sang songs at the very Piano which concealed the little closet in the wall where he had secreted the evidences of his guilt. When the guests were all gone, the family were informed who these two strange gentlemen were, and Badger, taking leave of his relatives, was conveyed away. He was convicted and sentenced to be hanged; and his execution was the last which took place on Kennington Common.

PREACHERS ON THE COMMON.—Perhaps there has been no piece of ground so much used for preaching of all kinds as the Common. The practice is mentioned in a play entitled "The Hypocrite," by J. Bickerstaff. A theatrical dictionary, however, gives the following fuller account of the play and its authorship. "The Hypocrite," commonly said to be by J. Bickerstaff, acted at Drury Lane, 1769. This is an alteration of Cibber's "Nonjuror." Scarce anything but the character of "Mawworm" was written by the present author. It is just this character which is interesting to us locally. He is a regular imposter and hypocrite, and tries to get into favour by seeming to be religious. It does credit to the boys of Kennington to hear what they did

with him. Here is an extract with proper spelling:—

Maw.—I wants to go a preaching.

Old Lady L.—Do you?

Maw.—I'm almost sure I have had a call.

Old Lady L.—Ay!

Maw.—I have made several sermons already. I does them extrumpery, because I can't write; and now the devils in our alley says as how my head's turned.

Old Lady L.—Ay, devils indeed; but don't you mind them.

Maw.—No, I don't; I rebukes them, and preaches to them, whether they will or not.

Old Lady L.—Did you ever preach in public?

Maw.—I got up on Kennington Common the last review day, but the boys threw brick-bats at me, and pinned crackers to my tail; and I have been afraid to mount, your ladyship, ever since.

Old Lady L.—Do you hear this, Doctor? throw brick-bats at him, and pin crackers to his tail! Can these things be

stood by?

Maw.—I told them so; says I, I does nothing clandecently; I stands here contagious to his Majesty's guards, and I charges you upon your apparels not to mislist me.

Old Lady L.—And it had no effect?

Maw.—No more than if I spoke to so many postesses.

### CHAPTER IV.

### THE COMMON AND PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS.

Lambeth owes her first member to the Reform Bill. The position of Boroughs previous to that year was very strange. Mr. Grey declared that 306 members were elected by 160 persons. Lord John Russell asserted that 37 places had only 50 electors, and 14 of them had no more than 20 electors, and there was at least one place where the member was returned by 2 electors, whereas Lambeth with 4,768 registered electors had no member.

Many have heard of the celebrated Division on the Reform Bill on March 21, 1831. On the second reading there were 302 for the Bill and 301 against it. A great man who was present has told us of that scene which those who witnessed could never forget. "From the 603 members present the Aves and Noes came like volleys of artillery; with breathless silence the votes were counted; suppressed cries began to break out towards the close, and when it was known that there was a narrow majority of one in favour of the Bill, strong men burst into weeping and laughter, and the stillness of the night was broken by storms of loud huzzas, which swept far along the dark excited streets." But the Bill did not become law till next year. The Lords threw it out; and then a very serious agitation spread through the country. Nottingham Castle was set on fire by a mob. At Birmingham 150,000 persons declared they would pay no taxes; and at Bristol immense damage was done to house property. Finally the opposition of the Lords was overcome by the threat that the king would create sufficient peers to pass the Bill if necessary. On June 7, 1832, the Bill received the royal assent, and Lambeth became a Parliamentary Borough.

Mr. Hill, in his Electoral History of Lambeth, thus writes in 1879 of the population of our neighbourhood:—"According to the census of 1831 the population of the area of the Borough of Lambeth was 154,613 or 28,448 less than that of the Parish of Lambeth is in 1880. At the last census (1871) it was 379,048. At the first election, in December 1832, there were 4,768 registered electors; at the election in 1874 there were 38,096; in 1879 there were 45,434."

The following document was circulated in Lambeth previous to the first election:—

### A NOTICE TO ELECTORS IN LAMBETH IN 1832.

"All the electors of the new borough of Lambeth are equally interested in the franchise being used with judgment, in choosing

representatives for the District to a Reformed Parliament.

"Therefore in the event of a premature canvass on the part of the candidates, we would suggest to our fellow parishioners, as a precautionary measure, that no promise of support should be given until after the respective qualifications of the persons seeking our suffrages have been thoroughly investigated. The first Reformed Parliament has much to do requiring able legislation; and upon its acts, whether good or bad, depends the future fate of this country. Reformers and Anti-Reformers are now embarked in the same cause; they must equally submit to the Laws of a Reformed Parliament; let us then pull together for our mutual good—let us co-operate in scrutinising the pretensions of candidates.

"Needy and desperate men may hope to be elected by unworthy means, and thus to better their fortunes at the expense

of the country.

"Ambitious and rich men may be solicitous of elevation to a seat in the House of Commons, without any other qualification for a legislator except that of wealth. To all such candidates we object; to the hands of the former we will not trust our property and the safety of our families; to the heads of the latter we cannot confide the power of legislating for us and the guidance of the country in troubled times.

"In candidates who are desirous of our support we require

the following qualifications:-

"1. Characters of unsullied reputation, of high moral worth.

"2. Abilities fitting for a legislator, as well from natural endowments as from preparatory requirements.

At the proper time we pledge ourselves to step forward and to

maintain our newly acquired rights."

The first public meeting for the election of a member was held on June 22nd, 1832, at the Horns. Finally Mr. Charles Tennyson and Mr. Benjamin Hawes were selected. They were Liberals and were opposed by two Ultra-Radicals—Mr. Daniel Wakefield and Mr. John Moore.

But on August 21st in the same year, an attempt was made to get Lord Palmerston to stand for Lambeth; at first this great Englishman accepted the call but afterwards preferred to stand for Hants.

Perhaps some would like to know the main points of interest in an Election address 50 years ago. Mr. Hawes mentions the following:—"He is an enemy to sinecures in the State and pluralities in the Church; he is in favour of free trade, desires the revision of the Corn Laws, and hopes to aid in bringing measures which may tend finally to abolish the slave trade."

The nomination was on Kennington Common on Saturday. December 8th, 1832. The ground was covered by a very large crowd, and numberless flags and banners were displayed. Four were nominated—Tennyson, Hawes, Moore, Wakefield. Monday, December 10th, at 9 A.M., the first polling on the Common commenced. One of the chief polling places was upon the Common. Voting could only take place between 9 A.M. and The first day the numbers stood thus:—Tennyson, 1591; Hawes, 1220; Wakefield, 472; Moore, 98. On the next day (Tuesday) the voting began at 8 A.M. and finally closed at 4 p.m. The numbers were:—Tennyson, 2716; Hawes, 2166; Wakefield, 819; Moore, 155. At the conclusion of the announcement of the election the members addressed the crowds and then a procession was formed, Mr. Tennyson's carriage leading the way. followed by Mr. Hawes. They made the tour of the Common and then made for the "Elephant and Castle" where, after another short speech, the crowd dispersed.

It is said that Lambeth was notorious for being the home of sedition at this time; it is partly accounted for by the fact that the inhabitants were discontented because they had had up to this time no voice in elections. Thus, in 1802, a Colonel Despard made the "Oakley Arms" in Oakley Street a meeting place for conspirators for the purpose of overthrowing the Government. He and five of his set were caught and hanged at Horsemonger Lane gaol. Another gentleman, a Mr. Barton, was arrested on suspicion upon another occasion, and had even an escort of Life Guards on his way to Bow Street. He was, however, bailed out by Mr. Cutler Ferguson, then a member of Parliament, and by another, for the sum of £5000. The trial never came on after all.

In 1834 on October 16th, during the existence of this Parliament the Houses of Parliament were burnt down.

I need not make any allusion to the next few elections upon the Common. They were very frequent—their dates being 1834,

1837, 1841, and then in 1847.

There was an exciting scene upon the Common in the election of 1847. Three Liberals were contending for the two seats—D'Eyncourt (Tennyson), Hawes and Pearson. In due time it was found that Mr. Pearson was safe; but the question then arose what course should be suggested to Pearson's supporters: as they each had two votes, should they give the second vote to D'Eyncourt or to Hawes? At 12 o'clock it was decided to recommend the support of D'Eyncourt. It was the custom for men clad like jockeys to gallop from each of the polling booths to the central committee room every half-hour to bring the state of the poll. At one o'clock these gaily attired riders were tearing through the streets with the message, "Mr. Pearson's supporters are requested to split with Mr. D'Eyncourt." Then carriages and cabs were rattling through Kennington, and shouts of "Split with D'Eyncourt!" were heard on every side.

At twelve o'clock D'Eyncourt was 237 behind Hawes; at one o'clock 95 behind; at two o'clock 76 behind; at three o'clock 62 ahead; and at 4 P.M. the result was:—Pearson, 4614; D'Eyncourt, 3708; Hawes, 334; and so the name of one of the earliest members who appeared on the hustings on Kennington Common disappears from the roll. A testimonial consisting of a piece of plate was presented to Mr. Hawes at the Horns upon his

retirement.

# CHAPTER V.

#### THE CHARTISTS.

Chartism was the outburst of feeling among those who rightly or wrongly thought themselves forgotten or ignored in the Reform Act of 1832. This Act had done a great deal to remedy many abuses, and doubtless no more could have been effected at the time.

In 1848, there was hardly a country in Europe where a Revolution did not break out. Louis Philippe lost his throne in France and came over to England. Belgium and England alone passed through the crisis without harm. In 1847, Feargus O'Connor had been triumphantly returned for Nottingham at the General Election of 1847, and this encouraged the hopes of the wilder spirits: They determined to present a petition to Parliament containing the "six points" of their Charter, and to back it by such an enormous number of supporters that the House of Commons would be compelled to submit to their demands. The six points were: 1. Manhood Suffrage; 2. Annual Parliaments; 3. Vote by Ballot; 4. Abolition of the proper qalification for Members of Parliament; 5. Payment of Members of Parliament; 6. Division of the Country into equal electorial districts.

The Chartists choose the Common as their rendezvous.

There was general alarm felt throughout London on Monday, April 9th, 1848. People had a vague sense of approaching evil and perhaps they hardly knew what precautions were being taken to guard against rioting and disorder. Fortunately the Duke of Wellington was fully equal to the occasion. his precautions with coolness, and stationed his troops so well that when friends came to give him advice, it was generally enough for him to answer, "Done already,"—" settled two hours ago." A very large body of Police were in position. Five hundred constables were concealed in Ball's Livery Stables, at Kennington Cross, where the Tramway Stables now stand; they were ready to act at a moment's notice. Besides this there were 3,500 others stationed at different points, 500 on each of the Bridges, 500 in Palace Yard, and a large number in ten boats to act upon the water. To support the Police there was a large force of Soldiers in hand. Four hundred Chelsea Pensioners guarded Battersea Bridge, 500 at Vauxhall, besides others—1,500 in all. The 62nd and 17th Regiments were posted in the Millbank Penitentiary; a battalion of Guards occupied the new Houses of Parliament, and another was formed up at Charing Cross; Besides these regiments there was a little army of 8,000 men stationed at the various public offices, extending through the City to the Tower. A detachment of Life Guards was posted on the Surrey side of Westminster Bridge, and another at Blackfriars Bridge under General Brotherton: and there was an advanced post of Cavalry close to Kennington Common. There were twelve pieces of Artillery in the Royal Mews, and several guns were placed close to Westminster Bridge ready for service. And in addition to this the Bridges were closed at two o'clock, and 110 Mounted Police patrolled the River bank from Vauxhall Bridge to Temple Bar.

All these troops however, according to strict instructions, remained invisible throughout the day: the Government wished in the first instance to rest the cause of the public order upon the constable and the other more ordinary methods. Apparently no one had any idea that a little army was really so well posted. The method most to be relied upon in the first instance was the army of Special Constables. The most moderate computation puts the number of these at 150,000 for the Metropolis. So well did they perform their duty that the Government were deeply sensible of the debt they owed to this impromptu Police Force.

Early on the morning of April 10th, the great Duke himself paid a visit to Kennington: a lady of our Congregation told me that about six in the morning she saw the Duke of Wellington cantering down the Fentiman Road escorted by a few horsemen, all in plain clothes. There was certainly apprehension also at the Vicarage, in the mind of the Rev. Charlton Lane, for the Communion Plate belonging to the Church was taken on Monday Evening to the Oval Schools. There a square bit of the boarding of the floor was taken up and the plate deposited underneath, and some of the pupil teachers were deputed to keep guard over the treasure. They spent a pleasant evening and certainly no harm overtook them.

On Monday morning, April 10th, 1848, the Chartist Delegates assembled at 9 A.M., at the Literary Institute, John Street, Fitzroy Square. The Secretary, Mr. Doyle, said the Police had informed him that the Monster Petition would be allowed to be taken to the Houses of Parliament, but that no procession to the House through the streets would be permitted. Mr. Feargus

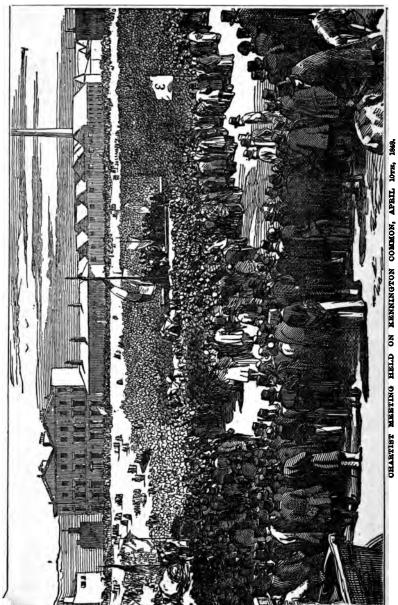
O'Connor, M.P., who was suffering from bad health at the time, said that he would do all in his power to prevent a rising among the people, or any kind of disturbance; but he adhered firmly to their intention of meeting on Kennington Common, and if that were prohibited he was prepared to impeach the Prime Minister for interfering with the rights of the people. He further informed the Meeting that he had just made his will to show that his mind was made up to stand by his friends: nor would he draw back in spite of what a Policeman, whom he had helped some years before, had come to say to him, "Sir, for God's sake, don't go on Monday to the Meeting: if you do you are to be shot, for those are the orders."

A third speaker (Mr. Wilkinson) then suggested that it would be better if they did not cross the river into Surrey, for if once they passed it, the soldiers would plant their cannon on the

bridges and refuse permission to return.

After a few more speeches, the Delegates, headed by Mr. O'Connor, left the hall and took their places on the car prepared for them. The grand car deserves some notice. The Times of April 11th, 1848, describes it as "a large and strongly built vehicle drawn by six horses, sufficiently large to contain upwards of fifty persons. The Delegates' car was preceded by another car of the same kind, intended to convey the National Petition, and drawn by four horses. Both cars had been expressly constructed for the occasion, and were gaily painted and decorated with flags, banners, and mottoes. Upon a large banner, at the head of the first car, in the Chartist colours of alternate red, white, and green, were inscribed the six points of the People's Charter, namely, universal suffrage, annual Parliaments, vote by ballot, no property qualification, payment of members, and equal electoral districts. One flag in the Delegates' car bore the words "No vote, no musket:" and among the mottoes painted upon the sides of both cars were the following: -" We are millions, and claim to live by the fruits of our industry:" "The voice of knowledge will silence the cannon's roar:" "Liberty is worth living for, and worth dying for: " "Who would be a slave who could be free?" "The voice of the people is the voice of God."

The horses were gaily bedizened with the Chartist colours, and attracted a large share of admiration. They were stated to belong to the Chartist Land Company, and had been brought up from the Company's farm for the occasion. At 10.5 a.m. the



cars left John Street, and Mr. O'Connor's place was in the centre of the front row of Delegates, supported by the Executive Committee. Messrs. M'Grath, C. Doyle and T. Clark. procession passed S. Giles' Church and stopped opposite the Chartist Land Company's Office. Here "the National Petition" was produced: it was rolled up into five huge bundles resembling bales of cotton, and placed upon a platform prepared for it on the car. The procession then advanced along Holborn: It was noticed that most of the shops at the western end were closed, but as the cars advanced eastward, the streets exhibited their usual appearance more and more, and there were no signs of fear upon the part of the tradesmen. Spectators showed themselves at the windows but there were few indications of enthusiasm and very scanty cheers. It was also remarkable that by far the largest part of the crowd was on the pavements and not with the cars, making it probable that there was more curiosity among the people than sympathy with the movement. The shops in Farringdon Street were mostly closed: from this point the procession crossed Blackfriars Bridge, and the great moving mass presented a fine appearance.

Here first, the military and the police came into view. A large body of Chelsea pensioners had been stationed on the floating bridge at some little distance from the actual substantial bridge. Apparently they were so placed in order that their uniforms might present an imposing array, but at the same time that the feebleness of the men themselves might not meet with criticism from the crowd. On the Surrey side of the Bridge a strong force of constables was posted, together with twenty of the mounted police. The shops in the Blackfriars Road were closed, though there was no need (as it turned out) for any fear: at the "Elephant and Castle" the procession was immensely augmented by crowds of people coming from the Borough, but they seemed to be spectators more than sympathisers. From this point about 10,000 persons advanced with the cars, but almost in silence, until they arrived within sight of the crowds already assembled upon the Common. Then the cheers broke out from all sides, while Mr. O'Connor and the Delegates acknowledged the compliment by waving their hats. The Times says. "The scene which burst upon the view of the Delegates at this point was certainly grand and imposing. The processions of the various trades and societies which had already arrived were drawn up in military array at the outskirts of the Common,

with their several banners and flags; they also formed a line through which the cars advanced to the place of meeting. The centre of the Common was occupied by a vast assemblage, many of whom were soon seen hurrying in rapid motion to welcome the Chartist leaders. . The Irish Confederates and many of the Trades processions remained in file where they were drawn up, either as if expecting the cars to proceed to some other position than that which they took up about the centre of the Common, or despairing, in so large an assemblage, of hearing the voices of the speakers. It was evident that the police authorities, having permitted the Common to be occupied by so large a body of the Chartists, had decided upon allowing the meeting to be held without interruption, and that it would be next to impossible to clear the Common of the thousands now congregated there."

"At this period a person approached the car, and addressed Mr. O'Connor with a message from Mr. Mayne, one of the Commissioners of Police, requesting to have an interview with him before the commencement of the proceedings. Mr. O'Connor and Mr. M'Grath immediately alighted from the car and accompanied the bearer of the message to the "Horns" Tavern which was occupied and exclusively engaged during the day by the police authorities, military officers, and others interested in the events of the day. The rumour at once spread like wild fire that Mr. O'Connor had been arrested, and this report gained credence throughout the Metropolis in an incredibly short space Mr. Mayne announced to Mr. O'Connor that the authorities would not object to the Meeting taking place, but that the procession would not be permitted to pass over the Finally, that if the procession were persevered in, Mr. O'Connor must take upon himself the responsibility of the consequences. Mr. O'Connor at once consented to do all the Government wished. He and Mr. M'Grath returned to the Delegates, and a considerable number of persons having assembled round this car, the proceedings of the day commenced."

# SPEECH OF MR. FEARGUS O'CONNOR, M.P.

As soon as Mr. O'Connor had returned from his interview with the Police authorities at "The Horns," Mr. Doyle was elected President of the Meeting. He briefly introduced the subject of the day, urged all to be peaceful, spoke of "this magnificent van" and of the petition upon it signed by 6,000,000 people: and then he called upon Mr. Feargus O'Connor to

address the Meeting. Whereupon Mr. O'Connor came forward, bowing his acknowledgements, and was received with deafening cheers (I cannot give the whole speech, but the extracts I have

made are very full).

"My children," he said, "you were industriously told that I would not be amongst you to-day. Well, I am here. I sat, on my way here, on the front seat of this car, and although my life was threatened if I appeared as I now appear, my hand does not tremble (cheers). When I was asked in the House of Commons on Friday whether or no I would attend this Meeting to-day, I replied, that as I had always sought the Lion's portion of the popularity, I would not shrink from encountering now the Lion's share of the danger (great applause). To frighten me at last I received at least 100 letters, telling me not to come here to-day, for that if I did, my own life would be the sacrifice. My answer was this—I would rather be stabled to the heart than resign my proper place at the head of my children ('Go it, old fellow'). Yes, you are my children: these are your horses, not mine: this car is yours, made of your timber: I am only your father and your bailiff, but your honest father and your unpaid bailiff. Never was man so badgered as I have been in the House of Commons. and, implore you, in the name of that great and good God, who has this day blessed us with a splendid sunshine, let me council you, let me enjoin, nay I would go down on my knees to beseech you, do not now destroy the cause I have so struggled for all my In yonder car go with you the voices of 5,700,000 of your They and I and the whole world look to you for good, orderly, and citizen-like conduct. Seeing the results I have in store for you, viewing the consequences which must inevitably follow from such demonstration as this, let me, with the confidence that I have preserved order, go down to the House to-night to oppose Sir George Grey's Treasonable Bill, for which I have declared, if no other man comes forward, I will impeach You, my friends, will show them we are the Government. Chartists, not pick-pockets. We, at least, have had our Meeting. The Government have taken possession of all the Bridges. You know that I have been all my life a man of courage, of firmness, and resolution: but how should I rest in my bed this night if I were conscious that widows were awake mourning for husbands slain? The executive have decided that you shall not be brought These cars will not be into collision with an armed force. allowed to pass, the flags will not be allowed to be displayed.

ask you, under these circumstances, through good and evil report, to stand by me to-day. You must not forget the charge devolving upon me. I have spent in your service six sleepless nights: my breast at this moment is like a coal of fire, and I could produce a certificate from my physician that it would be better for me if I were this instant in bed. I will strive for your liberties and for the proper privileges of the people: but I will maintain the peace. Large as my family is—and you are all my children—I do not wish to miss one from the human feast. You see (pointing to the horses) how labour feeds its horses (cheers and laughter). Capitalists ought to feed their labourers—they are fat enough, and they are fed with the blood that is in little children's Good God, my friends, how great will be my power when I rise in the House to ask 'Where is the shop-lifting?' 'Where has been the danger to life and property?' I will say there never was so peaceful a demonstration in any country under any circumstances. Then there is one thing I wish you to remember-I don't think you could well spare me just now (cheers and laughter). You may well imagine that I, who, if beggared in my old age, will be content to go from door to door among my children established on their own land, will not shrink now from rendering you further service. I have some little breath left yet, and I ask you now to lift your hats and vow to heaven that no violent language shall be permitted (a few near the car raised their hats)." The speaker then ceased speaking and looked much exhausted.

After Mr. E. Jones had spoken, Mr. O'Connor ordered the waggons to remain on the Common, and that the horses should be taken out. Then he said, "I now go as your ambassador to Sir George Grey at the Home Office to tell him you are determined not to come into collision with the armed force this day. And while you are doing your work don't forget poor Paddy. My family has suffered enough in this cause. My father was tried for high treason five or six times, and was in prison for seven years of his life. My uncle is now in the 50th year of his banishment, and is about to be made the First President of the Republic in France. My brother is Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief of a Republic in South America, and I think that I have not disgraced my name." Mr. O'Connor then descended from the car and left the Common.

After this no other speakers could get a hearing and the mob became restless, and violent rushes were made by small bodies from side to side. The horses became restive and began to kick. Then was distinctly heard from many quarters the peculiar cry of the young London thieves: one man jumped up and raved about many things, among others about "that bloody minded English journal, the Times." The Chairman then declared the meeting closed. The delegates were anxious to get away: and the car was moved so quickly that all who were upon it came down by the run, to the amusement of the spectators. The crowds then melted away without any order, being watched by many from the upper windows of the houses. At a quarter to two o'clock three cabs came on the common, and the bales of the National Petition were placed within them, and in this inglorious manner were carried to the House of Commons without any escort.

Many different calculations were made as to the numbers who were collected on the Common. Some said 50,000; but military officers put it as low as 15,000. One of the remarkable features in the streets was the number of respectable people with batons in their hands and white badges on their arms with letters and numbers upon them. These were the Special Constables enrolled for the occasion. Among them was Louis Napoleon, afterwards Napoleon III. We need not suppose that they were all very courageous. One gentleman tells me that one Special Constable asked to be admitted into his house overlooking the Common, in order that he might protect it! Others made their own preparations for defence. Mr. Willett, of Brixton Road, tells me that his family prepared a large piece of iron to act as a weapon in case the house was attacked. The mob did some damage. It is well known that Mr. Lyon's shop, in Thomas Street, was broken into and the loaves in it were carried off. Thus ended the Chartist demonstration which was at first viewed with alarm, and in the end was the most harmless of meetings.

# THE OLD COMMON TURNED INTO KENNINGTON PARK.

A few years after the great Chartist meeting in 1848, the Common was turned into a well kept park. The credit is due to a few gentlemen who were members of S. Mark's congregation. Chief among these was Mr. Oliver Davis, who lived at No. 5, The Terrace. With him were associated Mr. Adam, of 17, The Terrace, and the Rev. Charlton Lane, the Vicar of the Parish. Mr. Davis tells me that it was for him a seven years

fight ere the battle was won. I am not surprised at the arduousness of the struggle; I know how terrible has been the burden which has fallen of late chiefly upon the Rev. W. W. Edwards to win Vauxhall Park. Mr. Davis, sometimes single-handed, sometimes helped by friends, determined that the Common should become a park, and in 1851 he achieved his object. He wrote to Prince Albert and enlisted him in the good cause. this was but the beginning of the undertaking. Mr. Davis discovered that there were some 200 copy-holders who had rights in the Common; and they were not to be found in many cases. A Mr. Bailey tried to get their consent and failed. an Act of Parliament was obtained, and the Government agreed to make the park upon one condition: Would the inhabitants subscribe £1,000 for a railing round it? The Prince of Wales gave £200; the parishioners subscribed £800, and so the work was done. There were only three houses in "the Terrace" then. two of them I have named in this paper.

The making of the park led also to another interesting event. The Prince Consort said that as the inhabitants were losing a spot where cricket used to be played, the Duchy should lease the Oval (then a market garden) to any proper authorities who would encourage the national game. This led to the formation of the Surrey Club, at a meeting held at the Horns. The Oval has been let ever since to the Surrey Club at a nominal rent of £100

a year.

The Fountain in the Park.—There is a story connected with this fountain. Prince Albert had the model gardener's lodge built in the park. Its first occupants were dubbed "Adam and Eve," though I do not know what their real name was: it is needless to say that it was not Mr. Brown, the present courteous and capable gardener. One afternoon "voung Slade" went into this house upon a very hot day to ask for a glass of water. I should state that "young Slade" was about 80 years of age. He and his brother, who was a little older, were called "the young Slades" because their father had once been called "old Slade." They lived in that very comfortable looking house in the Kennington Road standing in a garden, now inhabited by a physician. Adam and Eve gave "young Slade" a glass of tepid water in a dirty glass and charged him 3d. for it. Slade went home and brooded over this. In the evening he sent for an architect, and the result was a fountain presented to the park of the value of 500 guineas.

### CHAPTER VI.

### "THE HORNS."

In 1820 all the ground extending from the present timberyard in Bowling Green Street, down to the end of the street into Kennington Road, and round to No. 236 Kennington Park Road, was the "Horns Tea Gardens." In place of the present row of shops there was a hedge with a ditch in front, and a large board upon the top of the hedge set forth the fact that here a tea garden existed. And just where the entrance to the Mews now is, where the omnibuses stop, there was a little bridge over the ditch and a short carriage drive took visitors into the middle

of the tea garden.

"The Horns Tea Gardens" are a thing of the past: and it is likely that many who live now on the site of them are unaware of the history of that piece of ground. In course of time it did not pay Mr. Briant, who then owned the "Horns," to keep the tea gardens open, and it became for a time a waste piece of ground—a magnificent horse chestnut tree in a back garden is perhaps the sole relic of the garden now. After some years Mr. Martin (or "John Martin" the well known fighting man) took the corner of the old tea garden and built himself a house there: Martin had begun life as a baker at the corner of Clayton Street. He had the shop which is now 380, Kennington Road, and below the floor of the present shop is the old bakehouse of Mr. Martin's. After a time, Mr. Martin left his shop: and I suppose he took to fighting, preferring the prize-ring to the more sober trade of baking bread. Soon afterwards he made his name by defeating "Jack Scroggins" after a fight of more than two hours, and in time came to be considered the Champion. It was about the year 1824 that Martin built the house at the corner of Bowling Green Street. Mr. Smith says he has seen Martin working on the scaffolding of his house not a bit the worse for the fact that the day before he had been engaged in a great fight. Martin also built the room which was used by the Parish of S. Mark for some years as a temporary Mission Room. It was at first a kind of billiard room and gambling place.

Before the year 1800, a Mr. Townsend was the occupier of the "Horns." In the year 1800 Mr. Briant became the landlord, a name well known and much respected in this neighbour-

hood. He was at the "Horns" for 50 years and kept a diary of the events of each day. Some of these are curious. When Mr. Briant died about 1852, Mr. Bates, the son of the builder of it, came to live here: but after some years he became bankrupt and the "Horns" was for a period altogether closed, and left in the hands of the mortgagees. I may mention here that the freehold of this property belonged then to the Farmer family (the family who presented to S. Mark's Parish the plot of ground upon which the Bolton Street Schools are built). The "Horns" remained closed until the lease held by the Bates family had almost expired. If this was about the year 1860 and the lease was one of 99 years, it takes us back to about 1760, the period when it seems to me that the "Horns" was first erected.

It was at this time that Mr. Martin came across the road and took the Tavern. He told Mr. Smith that he had always longed to take it from the time he had his baker's shop at the corner of Clayton Street, where he earned his title of "Master of the Rolls." For all the fittings and for the goodwill he paid only £112. Then he bought the property from the Farmer family for £5000 and paid to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for the Enfranchisement £2200.

Some facts about its frequenters.—One of the earliest names in connection with the "Horns," is a Dr. Messenger Monsey. This individual was born in Norfolk in 1693. He was sent to S. Mary's Hall, at Cambridge, and afterwards commenced the study of medicine under Sir Benjamin Wrench at He started practice at Bury St. Edmunds; but not succeeding there to his satisfaction he came up to London where he soon made a large fortune. On the death of Dr. Smart, Lord Godolphin made Monsey Physician to Chelsea Hospital, and about the year 1766 he went to live at Chelsea. At this time the present "Horns" had apparently just been In Jeaffreson's "Book about Doctors" (page 200) it is stated that "the Hospital offices were then filled by a set of low born scoundrels, or discharged servants whom the Ministers of various cabinets had had some reason of their own for providing for." Old Monsey was a very bad man himself, but apparently he did not relish the society of these persons; and therefore he was constantly in the habit of crossing the river and making his way to the "Horns." Here he used to sit for hours smoking and drinking and cracking cruel and disgusting jokes. He had a long, narrow wrinkled face, and wore a flowing wig. and a coat provided with very large buttons which were very much the fashion in those days. Monsey lived to a great age, dying at length at Chelsea on December 26th, 1788 in his 95th year: He left a will full of eccentricities and aggravating conditions: together with this he also left what he called "Monsey's Epitaph written by himself." It is not fit to publish: but it

shows an eccentric, and worse still, a wicked mind.

Joseph Capper.—This strange and disreputable man must have often met at the "Horns," another character even more eccentric than himself. Doubtless some who read these pages will have heard of Joseph Capper. His history is a most singular one. I give it as stated in Allen's History of Lambeth. "He was born in Cheshire, of humble parents. The family being numerous, he came to London at an early age, and was bound apprentice to a grocer. Mr. Capper soon manifested great quickness and industry. and proved a most valuable servant to his master. It was one of the chief boasts of his life that he had gained the confidence of his employer, and never betrayed it. Being of an enterprising spirit, Mr. Capper commenced business as soon as he was out of his apprenticeship, in the neighbourhood of Rosemary Lane. His old master was his only friend, and recommended him so strongly to the dealers in his line, that credit to a very large amount was given him. In proportion, as he became successful, he embarked in various speculations, but in none was so fortunate as in the Funds. He at length amassed a sum sufficient to enable him to decline all business. Mr. Capper having now lost his old master, was resolved to lead a sedentary life. For several days he walked about the vicinity of London, searching for lodgings, without being able to please himself. Being one day much fatigued, he called at the "Horns," took a chop and spent the day, and asked for a bed in his usual blunt manner, and was answered in the same churlish style by the landlord, that he could not have one. Mr. Capper was resolved to stop if he could all his life, to plague the growling fellow, and refused to retire. some further altercation he was accommodated with a bed, and never slept out of it for twenty-five years. During that time he made no agreement for lodging or eating, but wished to be considered a customer only for a day. For many years he talked about quitting his residence the next day. His manner of living was so methodical, that he would not drink his tea out of any other than a certain favourite cup. He was equally particular with respect to his knives and forks, plates, etc. In winter and

summer he rose at the same hour; and when the mornings were dark, he was so much accustomed to the house, that he walked about the apartment without the assistance of any light. breakfast he arranged, in a peculiar way, the paraphernalia of the table, but first of all he would read the papers. At dinner also, he observed a general rule, and invariably drank his pint of wine. His supper was uniformly a gill of rum, with sugar, lemon peel, and porter, mixed together. From this economical plan he never deviated. His bill for a fortnight amounted regularly to He called himself the champion of Government. was extremely choleric: and nothing raised his anger so soon as declaiming against the British Constitution. In the parlour he kept his favourite chair, and there he would often amuse himself with satirising the customers, or the landlord, if he could make his jokes tell better. It was his maxim never to join in general conversation, but to interrupt it whenever he could say anything ill-natured. Mr. Capper's conduct to his relations was exceeding capricious, he never would see any of them. As they were for the most part in indigent circumstances, he had frequent applications from them to borrow money. "Are they industrious?" he would enquire: when being answered in the affirmative, he would add: "Tell them I have been deceived already, and never will advance a sixpence by way of loan: but I will give them the sum they want: and if ever I hear that they make known the circumstance, I will cut them off with a shilling." after Mr. Townsend became landlord of the "Horns," he had an opportunity of making a few ready-money purchases, and applied to Mr. Capper for a loan. "I wish," said he, " to serve you, Mr. Townsend: you are an industrious fellow: but how is it to be done Mr. Townsend? I have sworn never to lend, I must therefore give it thee "-which he accordingly did the following day. Mr. Townsend proved grateful for this mark of liberality, and never ceased to administer to him every comfort the house could afford: and what was more gratifying to the old gentleman, he indulged him in his eccentricities.

Mr. Capper was elected steward of the parlour fire, and if any persons were daring enough to put a poker in it without his permission, they stood a fair chance of feeling the weight of his cane. In summer time, a favourite diversion of his was killing flies in the parlour with his cane: but as he was sensible of the ill-opinion this would produce among the bystanders, he would with great ingenuity introduce a story about the rascality

of all Frenchmen, "whom" he said, "I hate and detest, and would knock down just the same as these flies." This was the signal for attack, and presently the killed and wounded were scattered about in all quarters of the room. This truly eccentric character lived to the age of 77, in excellent health: and it was not till the morning of October 4th, 1804, that a visible alteration was perceived in him. He died two days afterwards leaving the bulk of his property (upwards of £30,000) among his poor relations, and was buried in a vault under Aldgate Church.

"The odd man at the Concert." -- A professor of music at Kennington, named Toulmin, used for many years to give an Annual Concert at the "Horns:" at one of these a strange looking character made his appearance. He was not exactly short but he looked so bulky and thick that it diminished his real height. His costume consisted of a low crowned, broad brimmed hat, which shaded his face; and he was still further concealed by a thick white woollen comforter wound aslant over one cheek, completely hiding chin and neck. was also buttoned up in a huge, ill-cut dark overcoat, with the collar turned up either to protect his neck or to add to his disguise. In his hand he carried a wonderful green cotton umbrella: such was the costume of this individual at a Concert where all were expected to be in full evening dress. The room was so full that some of the company were standing. Just before the music commenced the strange visitor proceeded to walk slowly down the central gangway, his boots creaking and the iron tip of his umbrella stumping along the ground: meanwhile he seemed to be looking straight before him, but in reality he was scanning all the faces of the company. For more than half the evening, at intervals, he continued these actions to the great annoyance of the audience, and at length disappeared. There were few at the Concert who recognised this strange looking individual in his disguise, but the gentleman who has furnished me with the story saw that it was one of the brothers Forrester, who were the well-known detectives of the day.

The appearance of a detective in the Assembly Room reminds me of another incident related to me by a friend. He says that his father was once at a Concert in the same place on the occasion of the appearance of a well-known singer. The Concert had commenced and the song of the evening was about to be given, when the singer suddenly faltered and retired hastily from the stage: many thought he had been taken ill; but in reality the unfortunate man saw before him an officer sent to arrest him for debt, and in the face of such a listener he could not proceed with his song. It is further stated that some gentlemen discovered the amount of the debt and made a collection in the room sufficient to meet the immediate difficulty, and the released gentleman was able to sing his song after all.

Old Assemblies at the "Horns."—Towards the close of the last century, and at the beginning of the present, the evening parties at the "Horns" were patronised by all the rank and fashion of the neighbourhood. They were organised by a staff of Stewards whose costume consisted of a swallow tailed coat of green cloth, with velvet collar and gilt buttons, a buff waistcoat and tight fitting pantaloons of nankeen, and pumps. Two strange incidents at these assemblies are still remembered by Mr. Cuming, having been related to him by eye-witnesses. A lady who was deservedly popular at these evening parties and was often present, was Miss -----, a sister of a Bishop of None in the ball-room were aware however of a Durham. physical deformity (or deficiency) on her part, which was at length discovered in a startling manner. The lady in question had danced several sets and all was going well; but at length whilst a quadrille was proceeding, her partner grasped her hand with too much fervour and on separating found himself to his horror carrying off his partner's hand and wrist! The fact was of course that she had a false hand so well made that by the help of a glove it was not easily detected. It is said that the lady could not get over the shock and did not frequent the ball-room again. She lived however for many years after this and died at the age of 73 on December 26th, 1845, in York Row, Kennington.

The stout lady at the dance.—On another occasion a very comical disaster befell a lady during the course of the evening. Miss ———, an inhabitant of Kennington Park Road, who was enormously stout, was very fond of dancing. After pursuing her favourite exercise one night she sat down in an arm chair and looked exceedingly comfortable and happy. At length another partner came forward to lead her to the next dance. She rose and took his arm. but lo! the chair rose with her; in vain she tried to shake off the encumbrance; she had too firmly embedded herself between the arms of the chair and the situation had become embarrassing. Kind friends rushed forward, some seized the chair, others laid hold of her arms, and

between them they managed to release the poor lady. We are told that in her case she was able to resume her place in the dance, and she did not again seat herself in a chair too small for her size.

The Kennington Glee Club.—Mr. Cuming also tells of pleasant evenings spent with the old Glee Club now many years ago. He describes a brilliant scene when the Assembly Room was lit up with chandeliers hanging from the ceiling: at one end was a table covered with silver cups full of flowers: the company chiefly composed of young women in evening costume lined the two sides of the room, whilst a gang-way down the middle was parted off with red ropes. When the evening was half over, and many songs had been sung, old Mr. Briant used to enter the room carrying in his hands a huge bowl of punch, followed by waiters with trays of glasses. The bowl was deposited upon a table and Mr. Briant helped the guests out of a silver ladle.

MR. BRIANT'S DIARY.—No name has been so intimately connected with the "Horns" as that of Mr. Briant. For fifty years he was a well known character here, and many curious experiences he could relate were he with us still. I quote a few extracts from his Diary which have been placed at my disposal by his grandson.

(From Mr. Briant's Diary).—"February, 1811: Manby's pond on the Green filled up by order of Mr. Kirby." (Kennington

Green I suppose.)

"February 28th, 1815.—The Chairing of Mr. Charles Barclay. The windows round the "Horns" broken by a Mob. The Life Guards were called out to quell the Riot. The act read."

(My readers will see that this skirmish with the people of Kennington must have been a preparation for a somewhat sterner combat on June 18th, 1815, on the field of Waterloo by the same troops!).

"March, 1845.—The nursery ground, the Oval, Kennington, taken for a cricket ground by Mr. Houghton, the president of the Montpelier Club, from the 'Bee-hive,' Walworth: 31 years lease at £120: taxes about £20. Turf laid by Mr. South, greengroer."

"August 1st, 1846.—Thunderstorm of hail and rain: never such known before: 3 p.m. to the evening: hailstones  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. in weight." (There are many of course still in the neighbourhood who remember this storm. It was on a Saturday; and the flood was so great in the Effra, that an eye-witness has told me that

people came to Church at S. Mark's on boards and in tubs on account of the water. At a house in the Kennington Park Road the hailstones were coming right through the window, and the proprietor of the house found a hailstone lying on the table of just the same size as some stone balls that were there also. The balls measure 1½-inch in diameter. A friend coming to the house from the City said that the storm of hail did not touch the Middlesex side at all. Another friend tells me that on this very day he had to deliver up possession of a green-house which he had leased in Stockwell, and after doubting whether he would give up the key before lunch or not, he finally took it back in the morning: in the afternoon every pane of glass was smashed to pieces. On the east side of the Clapham Road, no windows were left whole, on the west side none were broken).

Another friend has shown me an old account of an inundation of Kennington Common on June 4th, 1767. This time it was a high tide, together with rain, which ran up to Vauxhall Creek and covered the Common and destroyed some adjoining brick works. The current then went south-east over the Camberwell Road and Walworth Common into the Thames on that side. A poor woman was caught by the flood on Kennington Common and climbed up the bank above the "Turnpike House: "a man went to assist her off the bank, but they both slipped and fell in again and were carried through an arch under the Turnpike House, the stream was 3-feet deep. The woman was saved at once, but the man was carried down the stream for 40-yards before he was rescued. (Could this have been the Kennington Turnpike Gate?)

"August 6th, 1850.—Election of Mr. Williams for Lambeth: proclaimed on August 7th. Shabby lot." (How much there is in two words!)

"September 6th, 1844.—The Lambeth Marsh turnpike gate taken down."

"May 18th, 1853.—The road from Brixton Road to new Toll House in Harleyford Place commenced by Board of Works."

"September 5th, 1853.—The pond on the Common filled up."
"September 13th, 1853.—The new Toll House at Kennington

opened at 6 o'clock in the morning."

"1843.—Temperance Societies on the Common. Father Matthew gave the pledge to about 8000 people, on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, August 7th, 8th and 9th. Good order kept. Plenty of business in the house. (There is a fund of umour in the last sentence.)

### CHAPTER VII.

# "ST. GEORGE'S FIELDS."

Some of my readers will ask what Kennington has to do with S. George's Fields: for the very name of the latter implies a connection with S. George's, Southwark, and yet the ecclesiastical Parish of Kennington seems to have thrown out an arm into these old fields: in an early account of Surrey we are told that S. George's Fields extended from Blackman Street, Boro', to the Kennington Boad, and also that Kennington Common and these Fields were one continuous piece of ground. Let this suffice then as an excuse for trenching upon a locality which is full of interesting associations and borders upon our own Parish if it does not come within its limits in part.

We read that Dr. Gale, in the Itinerary of Antonius, fixed the site of Roman London on the south side of the river upon S. George's Fields. He was led to hold this theory by the fact that a great quantity of Roman coins and tiles have been discovered here: and also he thought it likely that the Romans would probably have settled down upon the south bank of the Thames before they proceeded to conquer tribes, such as the Trinobantes, who lived in what is now Middlesex. Maitland however, has proved Gale wrong. He says, "to me it is evident that at that time those fields must have been overflowed at every spring tide . . . . I have frequently, at spring tides, seen the small current of water which issues from the River Thames through a common sewer at the "Falcon" (the Inn on Bankside, which Shakespear used) not only fill all the neighbouring ditches, but also at the upper end of Gravel Lane, overflow its banks into S. George's Fields." Brayley also says that even as late as 1775 an architect who had built some houses at the bottom of Blackfriars Road. supplied the inhabitants with an engine which gave them water at every high tide.

It is highly probable then that all our neighbourhood in the Roman times were often flooded, and great parts of it were under water at every high tide. In fact on certain occasions this locality must have been more like a vast shallow bay than dry land, with ditches of greater depth intersecting it. Here doubtless the Romans erected summer camps for their troops, built on patches of raised ground: and in the same way there must have

been private residences scattered over the area of low ground. The semi-flooded state of this part of Surrey accounts for the feat accomplished by King Canute of bringing his fleet from Rotherhithe to Vauxhall. An account of this has been previously given. But still it is to the Romans that we must give the credit of attempting to build banks to prevent the inundations of the river, and to reclaim the ground for cultivatior. Had it not been for their work it would have been impossible to have had a Royal Residence like Kennington Palace in the days of Harold and of his forefathers.

The Thames however, could not always be kept within due bounds. An old Chronicle says that in the year 1242, there was a great inundation when the banks at Lambeth gave way: it laid the country under water for the space of six miles and inflicted enormous losses. The hills of Camberwell and Norwood would check the tide.

One hundred and forty years after this flood of water, S. George's Fields beheld another and a still more serious On June 10th, 1381, Wat Hilliard of Dartford inundation. (called "Wat Tyler" from his occupation) entered Southwark by the Kent Road on his way to demand redress from Richard II., accompanied it is said by 100,000 people. They released all the prisoners in the King's Bench and Marshalsea prisons in Southwark and passed on to Lambeth, when they burnt the palace. The King, as is well-known, behaved with the greatest courage. Wat Tyler was killed by William Walworth, the Lord Mayor; the King was only 15 years old, but he at once stepped forward and offered to be their leader in place of Wat. Their royal leader now conducted them to S. George's Fields, where they were confronted by a thousand citizens completely armed: at the sight of this array the rioters were cowed and gave up their arms, and the rebellion was at an end.

In these fields are also given a place in the adventures of no less noted a personage than Jack Falstaff. There was a windmill here, doubtless standing in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. Shallow says to Falstaff:—"O! Sir John, do you remember since we lay all night in the windmill in S. George's Fields?" (2nd part, Act III. Scene 1.) 2nd part, Act V. Scene I. Richard Duke of York, finds the fields a convenient place for his soldiers. "Soldiers, I thank you all—disperse yourselves: meet me tomorrow in S. George's Fields."

Passing on to Queen Mary's reign, Foxe, in his "Book of

Martyr's," mentions that in May or June, 1557, three men were burnt in S. George's Fields:—William Morant, Stephen Gratwicke, and One King. (Apparently "One" is the Christian name.)

But it would seem that the Fields never wore a busier aspect than in the time of the Commonwealth. In May, 1642, the Parliament determined to fortify London and Westminster against the King: and as a portion of South London belonged to the City of London they included S. George's Fields and Southwark, and part of Lambeth, within a line of fortification.

There were in all 23 forts erected: the only three which come within the scope of our history were the following: No. 20: A quadrant fort, with four half bulwarks, at Vauxhall. No. 21: A fort with four half bulwarks at the "Dog and Duck" in S. George's Fields. No. 22: A large fort with four bulwarks near the end of Blackman Street.

I have an account before me dated February 20th, 1642, which says:—"Yesterday, in the evening, a Common Council was assembled in the Guildhall of London, where was propounded the danger that the City is now in, because it lieth so open and unfortified that any enemy may have easy access unto it, which being by them seriously considered and debated, and to avert all sodain assaults upon it, they noted and concluded that redouts should be raised round about the suburbs, from Westminster to Stratford-le-Bow, and every one of them to be placed at no further distance but that they might with ease command each other, and that Fifteens should be levied through the City and Liberties thereof to defray the charge of the work. Sir Henry Garraway, one of the Aldermen of London, upon his refusal of contributing moneys for the defence of the Kingdom, was lately apprehended and carried to Rochester, in Kent, to be kept there in durance until he comply and submit to the ordinance of Parliament." The Government unquestionably were in earnest: and having obtained funds for the work, the citizens flocked out as described in the following graphic manner: "Which said ordinance began about the time aforesaid. to be put in full execution, and by the excellent example of London's noble Nehemiah, I mean the religious and right Honorable Lord Mayor of London, personally showing himself therein, together with divers of the most eminent Aldermen. Citizens, and Common Council men of the City, some of them, according to their rank and quality, going forth and attending

the most honoured Lord Mayor as colonels and other martial officers, with drums and ensigns displayed, and some of the train bands waiting on them, into the fields, thus to put life and credit into the business. The work began and went on with admirable alacrity, industry, and cheerfulness; many thousands of men, women and servants of both sexes, and all sorts and degrees, even of the gentry as well as of the mean condition, going daily through the City into the fields, with drums and ensigns before them, and themselves marching on most bravely with shovels, spades, and pickaxes on their shoulders and baskets on their heads, all of their own providing: and thus all the mechanical companies, or corporations of the City, followed one another every day by many thousands in a body, to advance the work for the public safety and defence of the Cities of London and Westminster; yea, and which was a very rare sight to see many hundreds of gentlemen and clerks of great worth did not forbear to show their zeal and love for the common cause, but with drums and ensigns before them did most commendably contribute to the furtherance of the work."

The numbers of people who went to work at the forts and defences in 1643 were very large. There was a great fear of the Royalist army. On May 24th a daily paper says—"5000 feltmakers and cappers, neare upon 3000 porters, besides other companies of men, women, and children." It is remarkable also how well organised in that day were the trades and localities in London, very different to the present chaotic mass of the metropolis. Thus on another day, a paper says—"This day the whole company of Gentlemen Vintners went out with their Wives, Servants, and Wine Porters. On Thursday the Shoemakers to the number of 5000." On another day—"all the inhabitants of St. Clement Danes... On Friday at least 5000 of S. Giles in the Fields, men, women and children." It would be an interesting speculation which of these bodies would do the most work at digging and intrenching: The Vintnors, or the Shoemakers, or the Cappers.

I have seen a broad-sheet evidently meant for wide circulation setting forth the doings at Vauxhall and on the Kennington Road, and at Blackman Street in the Borough besides other parts of Middlesex where the fortifications ran. At the top there is a picture showing the March of the Shoemakers, &c., headed by drums and trumpets. And then follow lines of which I give a selection.

"London Alacritie" (1643).

"By hearsay our foes they are coming to towne,

- "And threaten to kill us and beate our workes downe:
- "Which thing to prevent our tradesmen doe strive,
- "To build up new bulwarkes to keep us alive:
- "As many therefore as can now eate an egge,
- "I heare do invite you both little and bigge:
- "Since the worke is begun it needes must be done,
- "Men, women and children, come away, come. (The following then are able "to eate an egge").
- "The Mercers, the Grocers, the Drapers likewise,
- "Have bestowed the best skill their arts can devise:
- "Fishmongers and Goldsmiths and many trades more,
- "Will worke at the fortes till their fingers be sore:
- "Vintners and Clothworkers will march with the rest.
- "And Tapsters will take as much paines as the rest:
- "They take much delight for to follow the Drum,
- "When as hee beates Thump a Thump, come away, come.

(Attention is then turned to the young ladies, and we notice that their names are those most frequently used by Puritans, taken from the Bible.)

- "It did my heart good to see how fine wenches
- "Both drive the wheelbarrows and work at the Trenches:
- "I dare undertake that they laboured as well,
- "That all the whole kingdom will of the same tel,
- "Both Christian and Charity, Rachel and Mary,
- "Faire Deborah and Dorcas, Susannah and Sary:
- "The gallant young men did along with them come,
- "Both morning and evening with the sound of the drum." (Then notice the consequences to the idle young man.)
- "One day I observed how a man that was idle,
- "Was set on a horse without saddle or bridle,
- "Two men bid him carry upon a cowle staffe,
- "Both up streete and downe streete which made the folks laugh:
- "If hee had taine paines at the workes for a space,
- "He neede not have suffered such open disgrace,
- "And so to conclude as at first I began,
- "Men, women and children, come away, come.

When the forts and intrenchments were completed, they had of course to be guarded.

The following is an extract from a paper dated May 2nd, 1644. "The six regiments of London Auxiliaries which were on Friday last drawne forth to the keeping of the Forts, did very good service there by placing strong guards, and strictly and carefully examining all passengers. Particularly the red regiment should be noticed which was at the Fort in Southwark, who on Saturday last apprehanded a French Monsieur, who had a passe from France. He confessed himself to be a Roman Catholic, and being searched they found several letters sewed between the lining of his hose which were superscribed to several Lords, Countesses, and Ladies in and about London: whereupon the Frenchman was admitted to custody."

One can hardly imagine a greater contrast between the scenes just recorded—the masses of citizens clad in sober coloured garments, admitting of no idleness, accompanied in their martial array by Deborah and Dorcas, by Rachel and "Sary"—and the sudden burst into the most riotous festivity at the Restoration of The reaction was inevitable after the grim attempt Charles II. to check all gaiety except such as was permitted in the books of the Old Testament. My readers would like to know perhaps what were the amusements permitted to Rachel and Dorcas and The Puritan Licenses said that the their brothers and cousins. word of God permitted shooting-2. Sam. i. 18., also musical consort—Neh. vii. 67: and the putting forth of riddles—Judges xiv. 12: and the hunting of wild beasts—Canticles ii. 15: and the contemplation of God's works—I. Kings iv. 33. things were therefore permitted, the rest sternly denied.

Let us look at the result as seen in S. George's Fields. May 29th, Charles II. set out from Rochester for London. old fortifications were of no avail now. The nobility and gentry flocked in, several regiments of the best horse made a guard for the king, while the crowds strewed all the roads with herbs and About one o'clock the king came to S. George's Fields: and here the Lord Mayor and Aldermen waited in a tent to receive him. Allen, then Lord Mayor, delivered his Majesty the city sword and received it again with knighthood, and then a procession was formed under Sir John Stawell-First there marched 300 men in silver doublets, then 100 in purple liveries, a troop with buff coats, silver sleeves and green scarfs; 200 in blue coats, six trumpets with a pink standard, and footmen in sea green laced with silver; another troop with four trumpets and 30 footmen; another troop of 105 in grey coats, etc., etc. And further it states that "the streets all the way from Southwark to Whitehall, were hung with tapestry and rich silks: General Monk and the Duke

of Buckingham accompanied the King; and as they rode along, the conduits flowed with wine, and the windows and scaffolds were crowded with an infinite number of spectators." In this way that celebrated Lord Mayor's Show swept into London from the Surrey side of the Thames. S. George's Fields had more of the scaffolds than the windows, for our neighbourhood was bare of houses, with one windmill in the middle of the fields. I hope to give some account of the game to be found here, and of the gamekeepers—Suffice it to say here that there were "ingenious husbandmen" in those commonwealth days—so an old book printed in 1653 mentions—A man speaks there of a friend who "hath given himself to divers profitable and ingenious practices, among the which he hath offered me of this one to be most true that he digged up in S. George's Fields clay instead of marl and laid it upon his pasture grounds which he there held by lease, and did exceedingly enrich the same, insomuch as he did never regard or seek again any other soyl.'

I am glad to be able to introduce my readers to a map of our neighbourhood, on pages 72 and 73, dating back to May, 1753.

It will be seen that Kennington is chiefly noted for its non-existence. The only points worthy of notice a hundred and thirty years ago are a turnpike and the gallows (the spot where S. Mark's Church now stands). A person coming from Vauxhall would pass Vauxhall Gardens and find no Harleyford Road or Vauxhall Street, and consequently he would have to proceed as far as Kennington Cross before he could find a road to the Common: Notice also that the whole space now occupied by the Oval and other streets, was then open meadow, through which the Effra river meandered at will. This little river ran down the Brixton Road and then past the gallows.

The little building near the letter "a" in "Lane" is the Long Barn—the last remaining portion of the old Kennington Palace; and the turnpike must have stood where Pilgrim Street now emerges into Kennington Lane. It is also worth noting that the Kennington turnpike has been twice moved before it was taken away. At the beginning of this century (and in the map) it stood opposite Robertson's (now Mr. Collins') shop. It was afterwards brought to the point where so many knew it before it was removed.

A traveller from Westminster would pass through S. George's Fields to Kennington without seeing a house, except at two points, till he came to the "Horns," which stood in solitary

grandeur in the middle of green fields." No wonder that there was fresher air here in the last century than we can lay claim to in our day. A writer about a hundred years ago exclaims, "What is there in the air of the City better than that of S. George's Fields if sweetness belongs to air only."

I would call attention also to "London Stone": it is apparently an important landmark, of which I know nothing.

In a map of 1769 it is no longer marked.

The roads through S. George's Fields were not lighted for some time, and many a highway robbery was committed upon them: I have quite a collection of notices of such events in my possession. At length, in 1764, a paragraph appears in a paper saying that lamps had been placed at intervals, and that 31 watchmen, with a man to patrol on horseback, went on duty: It also adds that there were alarm bells in the watchmen's boxes. These fields were favourite places for the ascents of balloons and some very curious wagers were here decided. For instance, a man wagered that he would roll a wooden bowl across S. George's Fields and accomplish the distance in a fewer number of times than another who was to use an iron ball weighing 1-lb. The bowl won easily.

Again, in 1763, a man announced that he would run a coach wheel eight miles within an hour, and performed it here in  $59\frac{1}{2}$  minutes. They erected a platform of wood for him a quarter of mile in circuit.

Another affair has a strong element of the ludicrous in it. In 1794, a little man offered to carry a stout man from a public house near the Obelisk across the fields for a bottle of wine. The stout man stripped according to agreement, and the little man set off with his naked burden. Two watchmen, supposing it was a body snatcher making off with his booty, pursued the weight carrier: upon which the man dropped his load and ran away. The naked man getting up and finding himself pursued also made off in another direction: and the watchmen were so frightened at the coming to life of the corpse (as they thought), that they also ran away in a different direction, and the paper adds that they were quite disabled from doing their duty for several days.

Before the days of the Electric Telegraph there was a system of signals established to connect London with the sea ports, and they seem to have been very effective. One of these stations was in S. George's Fields, the next was on Plow Garlick Hill, New Cross: By means of these signal stations a message from the

Admiralty was once delivered on a clear day in  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -minutes at Deal: and on another occasion a message from Dover came to London in 7 minutes. Of course some of the old names of spots in our neighbourhood must have been entirely lost: But possibly some one may be able to tell me where the place mentioned in the following advertisement could have been:—The "London Gazette," July 21st, 1687. "These are to give notice that if any person wants any good red and white turnip seed, he may be furnished at Mr. Andrew's at Hasand's Bridge, in the parish of Lambeth, near Kennington Common."

Kennington was girt round with turnpikes. It may interest some to see the charges, and (what is more curious) the

exemptions.

At Newington, Lambeth, Vauxhall, Kingston and Croydon turnpikes in 1753. Every horse 1d: every chaise or cart with one horse 2d: every coach or carriage with two or more horses 6d: every waggon not laden with hay or straw 6d: but if laden with hay or straw, only 3d: oxen sheep, etc., per score 2d.

Notice the exemptions: Horses laden with fish are toll free: every horse on which drivers shall ride, free. Every horse ridden by the owner of a cart, free. Corn in the straw, ploughs, barrows, &c., pass free. Soldiers on march, parsons riding past are also free.

Let us look once more at our map: Walworth is seen to be a little straggling country village with a long interval of green fields between it and the village of Newington. In Newington, upon the spot where the Tabernacle now stands, some Almshouses are marked. They stood there within the memory of those still living: and near the Almshouses there was an open ditch full of water. This was supposed to be part of the trench cut by Canute in 1016.

# "THE DOG AND DUCK."

Any one may still see embedded in the wall of Bethlem Hospital an old sign, carved in stone, of a dog holding a duck in his jaws. This is the actual sign of the place of recreation mentioned above, and has the date upon it, 1617. The sign itself cannot be well seen from the road, but after entering the main gateway of Bethlem Hospital, it is about 100 yards to the right. A glance at the map on pages 72 and 73 will show that the "Dog and Duck" stood just by the road where the sign now is placed.

I have seen it stated that the pond attached to the house was

in old days part of a most which surrounded the fort erected here in the time of the Commonwealth for the defence of London, but I cannot vouch for the truth of this. At any rate there was a piece of water here, and it was used for the barbarous sport of hunting ducks with dogs. The author of the "Memoirs of de Castro" states that he had seen the piece of water, and that there was a celebrated dog kept here.

The house was long and low, with gable roof: Within it there was a large room with tables and benches, and at one end an organ. The history of organs in taverns is curious: They were first to be found in such places in the time of the Commonwealth, and for a very simple reason; because at that period the Liturgy and the use of Organs was forbidden in the Churches by the Puritans, and the organs then found a home in spots very little

suited, in those days at least, to their proper use.

I have explained above the obvious meaning of the name of this Tavern: another name, not uncommon then, for an inn is not so easy of explanation. Why should a man name his house of call "The Mad Dog?" It has been suggested that the reason for the name is that, from one point of view, a mad dog must be the "beau ideal" of a jolly fellow because he has such a horror of water!

The "Dog and Duck" used to be a very small public-house till a Mrs. Hedger took it in the middle of the last century. Her son, who was a post boy at Epsom, came to be master here, and under him it came to be very famous, and Hedger himself was

called "the King of the Fields."

One cause of prosperity of the Tavern was that Sampson, the proprietor of a Circus and a great rider, removed from Islington and pitched his tents in a field adjoining the "Dog and Duck." Enormous crowds flocked to the Circus, and afterwards visited Mr. Hedger for refreshment. It was this gentleman also who first appreciated the virtues of a well of water on his premises. They possessed medicinal qualities, and soon "S. George's Spa" became a resort for those who were seeking for health. Mr. Hedger, being an enterprising man, opened a market in 1789, on his own ground: It is described as an oblong square of 120-feet by 90—containing 40 stalls in ten blocks—each shop being 12-feet square. It was considered to be the best appointed market in London. But in 1790, the proprietor was sued for having infringed the rights of the Borough Market. This Market had been purchased by the Parish of S. Saviour's in 1755,

on condition that no other market or stalls should be erected within 1000 yards. The case ended in a compromise: Mr. Hedger offered a certain sum of money to the Parish and they accepted his terms.

But a still more adventurous transaction of Hedger's was with reference to the building of houses in S. George's Fields and I suppose they were in many cases the immediate predecessors of

the houses that stand there now in that neighbourhood.

The managers of the Bridge House Estate (the Bridge House was built on old London Bridge) published to the world that they were ready to grant leases of land in S. George's Fields for 21 Mr. Hedger immediately acquired as many leases as he But in the leases thus granted, there was the curious could. proviso that if he built upon any part of the ground so leased to him, he was to forfeit £500. Probably it never would have occurred to Hedger to build at all with such a short term of years. but the prohibitory clause set him thinking; and he had no sooner signed the deeds of conveyance than he began to build all over his ground as fast as he could, subletting to other builders what he could not attend to himself. Of course he paid his forfeit of £500 immediately, and in course of time he amassed a yearly income of £7000. Hedger lived to a good old age and died in about 1822 leaving behind him four sons, the eldest of whom was called "the Squire."

But to return to "the Dog and Duck" and its fortunes. This house was the rendevous of the rioters in the time of Lord George Gordon (1780). And the daily papers of the period speak also of nightly entertainments of rope dancing, tumbling, and fireworks. Persons also of high character were wont to go there as to a kind of public show: and as they walked about the gardens there were pointed out to them among the company, "the man who robs on Hounslow Heath;" "the man who last week attacked the gentleman's carriage on Bagshot Heath:" "the celebrated pick-pocket Barrington;" "the eminent foot-pad of Norwood;" just as it is now customary to point out our public men in Parliament, or the leaders of society.

It is believed that this house had come into this disreputable state because Hedger, having made his money, gave the Tavern over to his nephew Miles, on condition that he received £1000 a year out of the profits. The company became so large here, although disreputable, that Mr. Barrett, the proprietor of Vauxhall Gardens, and a Magistrate for the County, became jealous of its

growing receipts, and alleging the bad character of the place, had the License taken away. This was a death blow to the Establishment, and the place was made into gardens and let out to tenants: one of the first of these was an American quack doctor who performed miracles here. At about this time also the Blind School leased part of the old building until in course of time they

erected their present large Institution.

I ought to relate however that Mr. Hedger himself once had a very narrow escape of losing his Licence. The Surrey Magistrates (whether instigated on this occasion by Mr. Barrett, I know net) did actually revoke the Licence. But the position of S. George's Fields is peculiar. It is certainly in Surrey, but it is (or was) also the property of the City of London, and Hedger appealed from the Surrey Magistrates to the Lord Mayor, who came down in person, held a Court, and reinstated Hedger in his rights and

gave him back his licence.

But I have not yet done with the history of house-building in the fields. In 1789, as I have stated above, the leases of 21 years were taken up. "The Gentleman's Magazine" 1810, gives a curious account of the end of these transactions. March 27th, 1810, a notice appeared, stating that as on Saturday the greater part of the leases expired, the inhabitants left their houses, and immediately a set of depredators began to tear the buildings down, and especially turned their attention to the lead in the gutters. A few days afterwards another announcement appears to the effect that several hundred persons had assembled here for the extraordinary purpose of stealing houses, i.e., of taking away all the materials. The old leaseholders, following I suppose the example of the thieves mentioned above, came back, pulled down their houses and removed every brick and plank from the premises. The City surveyor and the solicitor hearing of this applied to Mr. Hedger and said they would come upon him for dilapidations. Mr. Hedger was, however, quite equal to the occasion. He represented that he was bound according to the leases to return the ground in the same condition in which he received it: and that because he had dared to let others build houses he had had to pay the large fine of £500. It was monstrous, therefore, to expect him, he argued, to check the demolition of the houses, which was a work almost contemplated to be done in the lease. The City officials saw that they had not much to get out of the "King of the Fields": and they went to the Court of Chancery and obtained an order to check further damage. This had an effect for a short time, but again the neighbours began to attack the empty houses: the workers numbered nearly 1000, and it is said that the women were more outrageous than the men: in the end the

police interfered and checked the looting.

I have alluded above to the fact that S. George's Fields belong to the City of London. It came about in the following manner: -After the dissolution of the monasteries in the time of Henry VIII., the citizens of London came to the conclusion that it would be most convenient to have the Borough of Southwark annexed to the City of London: and as Southwark was at this time wholly in the hands of the King they approached him in the matter. Henry however would not give his consent. After his death they renewed their application before Edward VI., and this time with success. On April 23rd, in the fourth year of his reign, he granted that part of the Borough of Southwark to the City which had been the property of Charles, Duke of Suffolk, from whom Henry VIII. had purchased it. King reserved to himself and to his successors the mansion called Southwark Palace and the gardens, and the ground called "The Antelope." In consideration of this the Citizens of London paid the King £647 2s. 1d. "of lawful money of England." It was a blessing to Mr. Hedger, two centuries afterwards that this transaction was completed satisfactorily.

#### CHAPTER VIII.

## "THE TRADESCANTS' HOUSE."

Not far from the old site of Vauxhall Gardens there existed, up to 1881, an old house in the South Lambeth Road, known of late as Turret House. It had been inhabited for the last forty years of its life by Mr. J. M. Thorne, who has kindly placed at my disposal all his documents relating to the past history of his The following facts are chiefly gathered from a copy residence. of The Builder of January 8th, 1881:—I may say, at starting, that the chief interest attaching to this old house consists in the fact that here there was formed one of the very first botanical gardens and museums ever known in England. The earliest of all was made by John Gerarde, who lived at the end of the sixteenth century, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. His garden was attached to his house in Holborn, and he published a catalogue of his rarities in 1596 and 1599. Doubtless, Gerarde had dealings with Sir Walter Raleigh, who is so well-known as the introducer of foreign plants into England. The Builder says that the introduction of foreign plants into this country was very slow. In the sixteenth century only 89 foreign woody plants were known to be cultivated in Britain, exclusive of two varieties of laurustinus. Raleigh and Gerarde produced some effect, for by 1633 some 131 plants were introduced. In the eighteenth century greater progress was made, for 445 trees and shrubs were added to the collection; and in the first thirty years of the nineteenth century no less than 699 were added. This gives some conception of the poverty of England in its variety of shrubs and trees in the olden days, compared with our gardens. and parks as we know them now. Probably, the list has been enormously increased during the last fifty years. The introduction of foreign trees and plants is owing, in great measure, to the Two Tradescants. They were followed, also in the foundation of Museums, by Sir Hans Sloane and Sir Ashton Lever, whose collection was kept in Leicester Square, and was finally sold by auction.

The Tradescants were, at one time, supposed to be of Dutch origin, but in reality they were a Warwickshire family. The elder of them resided at Meopham, and his son, called the younger Tradescant, was born there in August, 1608. The will

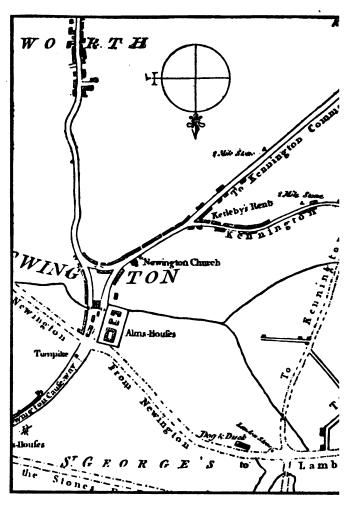
of the latter mentions also the Tradescants of Walberswick, in Suffolk, as though they were kinsmen of his.

It thus comes to pass that we have Tradescant Road and Walberswick Place on the site of the old house. "The elder Tradescant made a journey," says The Builder, "to Archangel in 1618 in the suite of Sir Dudley Digges, the English Ambassador in Russia, and there has been discovered in the Ashmolean Library a MS. diary of the voyage in the handwriting of the elder Tradescant. In the year 1629 he was appointed gardener to Charles I., having previously served the Lord Treasurer Salisbury, the Duke of Buckingham, and other noblemen in a similar capacity. He was an enthusiastic botanist, and the first mulberry tree ever grown in England is said to have been planted in his garden." (A good many people still have these trees in their gardens in this neighbourhood. Who can say that they were not descended from the original stock, which I have mentioned above?)

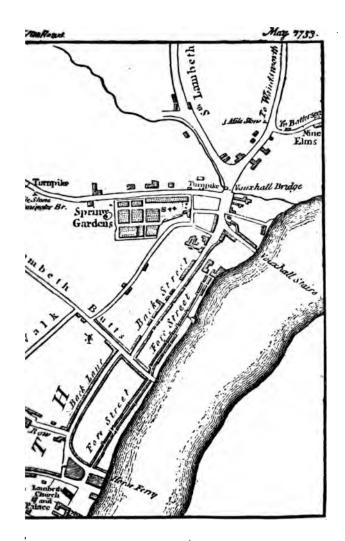
Parkinson's "Garden of Pleasant Flowers," printed in 1656 (says The Builder), relates that the elder Tradescant introduced a large number of plants into England, among others, the greatest double yellow bastard daffodil, moly homericum, moly Indicum, virginianium spider wort, gladiolus byzanticum, white bellebore, knobbed mountain valerian, a new strawberry from Russia, plums from Turkey, and apricots from Algiers. Indeed, it is said that so great was his ardour to obtain the apricot (which was forbidden to be exported) that he became of his own will, a slave on board an Algerian pirate ship; and when he had obtained the slips of the coveted tree he made his escape.

I may state here that in May, 1749, Dr. Watson in a paper which he read before the Royal Society, mentions that "Mr. Tradescant's garden has now been for many years totally neglected and the house belonging to it empty and ruined; but though the garden is covered with weeds there remain manifest signs of the founder. I noticed two large arbutus trees, the largest I have ever seen; and in the orchard a tree of the rhamnus catharticus, about twenty feet high, and nearly one foot in diameter." He states that Tradescant first planted here the Cupressus Americanus. The house that was pulled down in 1881 seems to have been built in 1678.

I have mentioned that the elder Tradescant made a kind of museum of curiosities, in addition to his "Physic Garden," as it was styled. I have before me, a little book, "Museum



KENN



Tradescantianum;" (printed in 1656) "or, a Collection of Rarities preserved at South Lambeth, near London, by John Tradescant." This is Tradescant the younger. He says in the preface that he publishes the catalogue because "these rarities would be an honour to our nation." He mentions also—"My kind friend, Mr. Hollar," who was to engrave the plates for him. First there came in the Catalogue "Some kindes of birds, their egges, beaks, feathers, clawes, and spurres." A cassawary begins the list, followed by a crocodile (1), soland goose, and an egge given for a dragon's egge," and "Easter egges of the patriarchs of Jerusalem."

He also preserved "beaks and feathers," "a griffin's beak, two feathers of the phœnix tayle": also "clawes,"-"the claw of the bird rock, who," as authors report, "is able to trusse an elephant." But next comes a statement of genuine interest. Among the birds there was a "dodar, from the island of Mauritius: it is not able to flie, being so big." This bird has been long extinct, and there are not more than one or two specimens known in the world. If it is still in the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford it is a great prize. A dodo in South Lambeth is indeed wonderful to think of. There are thousands of curiosities, shells, and crystals, mentioned in all. Some of the strangest are "cloath spun of the downe of vellow feathers." "Halfe a hasle nut with seventy pieces of household stuffe in it." "A cherrystone holding ten dozen of tortoiseshell combs, made by Edward Gibbons." "A hollow cut in wood that will fit a round, square, and oval figure." "Flea chains, of silver and gold, with 300 links a piece, and yet but an inch long." "A bundle of tobacco, Amazonian." (This last was indeed a curiosity, considering that Tradescant may well have seen Raleigh.) "A trunion of Captain Drake's ship" (the ship that first circumnavigated the world). I will here anticipate the end of my story and say that in due time all these curiosities were presented to the University of Oxford. And now comes a strange fact in the history of these articles. The Standard, of November 20th, 1882, has an article which states that in that year (just 200 years after the gift of the museum to the University) a large number of valuable curiosities had just been discovered at Oxford, hidden away in a kind of outhouse, easily accessible to passers by in the street. Apparently part of Tradescant's (afterwards Ashmole) gift had been thus carelessly treated at the first, and had remained concealed until seven years ago. Indeed, it had often been noted that the old catalogue spoke of engraved gems, globes of crystal, carved ivory and amber, etc. Most of these articles were recovered in the manner stated above, and among them a gorgeous Persian hookah, made of silver, inlaid with turquoises, one of Henry VIII's hawking gloves, and a brick of Gudea, the son of Dungi, one of the earliest Chaldean monarchs of whom we know. The Standard tells how such discoveries are not uncommon, for instance, the Crown jewels of Scotland lay for more than a century in a dirty oak chest in a guard room of Edinburgh Castle. We are also told here that formerly there were two dodos in the collection, but that one had been thrown away by the authorities as useless. The price of a specimen now would be reckoned by many hundreds of pounds. The elder Tradescant died in 1652, and was buried in Lambeth. Church. He had been a man of character, and very highly Persons of rank frequently visited his museum; among them are mentioned Charles I. and his Queen, Henrietta Maria, Archbishop Laud, the Duke of Buckingham, and the Earl of Salisbury. A monument was erected to him in Lambeth Church-vard by his widow in 1662. A somewhat effusive inscription tells all that pass by that both the father and the son were "Gardiners to the Rose and Lily Queen." The younger Tradescant was apparently a man of inferior intelligence. was childless, and fell under the influence of Elias Ashmole called "a crafty, scheming man, who pretended to a knowledge of astronomy, and the transmutation of metals." Their acquaintance began in 1650, and some years afterwards he is said to have made over his museum to Ashmole, the gift to take effect on the death of Tradescant. He died in 1662; and, by a will dated May 4th, 1661, he had left his museum to his wife, Hester, for life, and after her decease to the University of Oxford or Cambridge, at her discretion; and makes no mention of Ashmole or the alleged deed of gift to him. Ashmole filed a bill in Chancery against the widow, stating that the museum had been given to him by deed, but that he was unable to produce the document in consequence of Mrs. Tradescant, to whose custody he had committed it, and that she had burnt or otherwise destroyed it. This extraordinary explanation appears to have been accepted by the Court of Chancery, for notwithstanding the non production of the deed of gift (which, if ever executed as alleged, must have been set aside by the will of 1661), the Lord Chancellor, who was Clarendon, made a decree in Ashmole's favour, subject to the trust for the defendant during her life.

Tradescant was even induced to write and sign an apology. I give a copy of it—

"Apology for several defamatory speeches, etc., and untruth-

ful accusations. Sept. 1st, 1676."

1. Reported that Elias Ashmole had made a door out of his garden into my orchard that he might come into my house, as soon as the breath was out of my body, and take away my goods.

2. I stated that he had advanced his garden wall 250 feet on

my ground.

- 3. I stated that he had forced me to give him my collection of rarities by threatening to cut my throat; but I offered and made him accept them, or should have turned them into the street; he at last consented to have them.
- 4. I stated I made him promise to bestow the rarities on the University of Oxford, whereas I never moved the said Ashmole

to any such thing.

5. I caused a great heap of earth rubbish to be laid against his garden wall so high, that on the 1st day of August last, in the night, by the help thereof, it is strongly presumed that thieves got over the same and robbed the said Mr. Ashmole of 32 cocks and hens, and notwithstanding he admonished me to take it away, I told him it should be there in spite of his teeth; and so it continued untaken away above six weeks after he was so robbed, whereby he lay in continual fear of having his house robbed every night.

Signed E . . . . STER TRADESCANT."

The poor lady was evidently very much upset by all these transactions, and she was found drowned in the pond in her garden on April 3rd, 1678.

Elias Ashmole kept a diary, subjoined are extracts from it, relating to the Tradescants, they give an insight into the life of

those times:—

"1650, June 15th.—Myself, my wife, and Dr. Wharton went to visit Mr. John Tradescant at South Lambeth.

1652.—I and my wife tabled this summer at Mr. Tradescant's. August 2nd.—I went to Maidstone Assizes to hear the witches tried, and took Mr. Tradescant with me.

September 11th.—Young John Tradescant died. He was

buried by his grandfather in Lambeth Churchyard.

1659, December 12th.—Mr. Tradescant and his wife told me they had been long considering upon whom to bestow their closet

of curiosities, when they died, and at last had resolved to give it unto me.

December 14th.—This afternoon they gave their scrivener instructions to draw a deed of gift of the said closet to me.

December 16th.—Five hours thirty minutes past meridian, Mr. Tradescant and his wife sealed and delivered to me the deed of gift of all his rarities.

1662, April 22nd.—Mr. John Tradescant died.

This Easter Term I preferred a Bill in Chancery against Mrs. Tradescant for the rarities her husband had settled on me.

1664, May 18th.—My cause came to a hearing in Chancery

against Mrs. Tradescant.

1666, October 11th.—One hour thirty minutes. My first boatful of books, which were carried to Mrs. Tradescant's, the 3rd of September (the second day of the great fire of London), were brought back to the Temple.

October 18th.—Four past merid. All the rest of my things

were brought thence to the Temple.

1669, April 15th.—Mr. Rose, the King's gardener, and myself, went to Mrs. Tradescant's, and thence to Captain Foster's, at South Lambeth, where I first was acquainted with him.

1674, October 2nd, 11.30 A.M.—I and my wife first entered

my house at South Lambeth.

October 5th.—This night Mrs. Tradescant was in danger of being robbed, but most strangely prevented.

November 26th.—Mrs. Tradescant being unwilling to deliver up the rarities to me, I carried several of them to my own house.

December 1st.—I began to remove the rest of the rarities to my house at South Lambeth.

1675, April 17th.—The same morning I agreed with my carpenter for building the additional room I made to my house at South Lambeth.

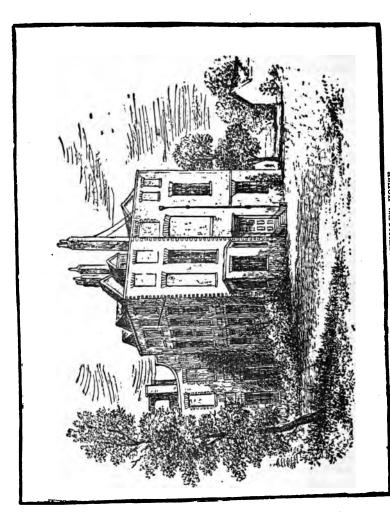
May 5th.—I laid the first stone of my new building there.

November 16th.—I began to plant my garden walls with fruit

trees.

1677, July 17th.—Count Wallenstein, Envoy Extraordinary from the Emperor; Marquis d'Este, Envoy Extraordinary of the King of Spain; Mons. Sweren, and the Count of Flamburgh bestowed a visit on me at my house at South Lambeth.

1678, April 4th, 11.30 a.m. — My wife told me that Mrs. Tradescant was found drowned in her pond. She was drowned the day before, about noon, as appeared by some circumstances



April 6th, 8 P.M. — She was buried in a vault in Lambeth Churchyard, where her husband and his son John had been formerly laid.

April 22nd.—I removed the pictures from Mrs. Tradescant's

house to mine.

June 18th.—Mr. Lea and his wife release to me of the one hundred pounds I was to pay after Mr. Tradescant's death bears date.

1679. March 25th.—I entered upon the house adjoining to my house at South Lambeth, which Mr. Bartholomew let me a (Surely this is Tradescant's house.)

August 15th.—My Lord Grace of Canterbury (Dr. Sancroft) came to visit me at my house, and spent a great part of the day

with me in my study."

Ashmole was a grasping man, who, though very rich, behaved in a heartless manner to Mrs. Tradescant, and must be accused in some sense of causing the poor lady's death. Ashmole considerably increased the collection of curiosities made by the Tradescants, chiefly by the addition of books and medals; and in 1682 he presented them to the University of Oxford, having, as it would seem, carefully destroyed everything that could recall the memory of the two original collectors, the two Tradescants.

Dr. Ducarel, who died in 1785 (and lived in South Lambeth), says that John Tradescant's house had been divided into two parts, the front being old and the back being part of the offices of the great brick house built by Ashmole. It had belonged in the last century to a Mr. Small, and in 1786 was inhabited by

Mr. T. White.

"Turret House," which was pulled down in 1881, had very little in it which was standing in Tradescant's time. Ashmole built it between 1678 and 1692, but even his erection had been much changed. The staircase and entrance hall however seemed to be of oak of the time of Charles II., the iron gate and piers of the time of George I.

In 1786, Nichols writes that but few of Tradescant's rare plants were left: only a few horse-chestnuts, some pine trees and samachs: and at the entrance over the bridge of the most

two enormous whale ribs.

## CHAPTER IX.

# "REMINISCENCES OF THE LATE MR. BUCKLER."

I diversify my History of our neighbourhood by introducing a letter, written by Mr. Buckler, who lived to a great age, at 109, Camberwell New Road.

February, 1885.

DEAR SIR,

In complying with your request for some information about Kennington, reliance has been placed on a sixty-six years' acquaintance, more than half that time having been residential, and a thorough knowledge of the district. The following Recollections of Kennington from 1819 to 1885 written without Notes or Books of reference, may be interesting to you.

In 1819, Kennington was a rural district, chiefly known by its Common, two toll bars, and *The Horns Tavern*, then a picturesque house of call for country coaches leaving London. The road from the old village of Newington Butts to Kennington was partly built. There were some rows of houses and detached residences on both sides, and between them could be seen garden grounds, on which were single houses, sheds, and cottages.

Four-horse coaches into Surrey and Sussex passed through Brixton (the old road) and Clapham (the new road), most of the coaches went by the old road through Croydon. The new road, through Clapham and Tooting, was set-out of greater width, and more mansions, houses, and cottages were built on it; the back-

ground being fields and garden grounds.

From Kennington Common to The White Horse (on the Brixton road) an old inn where coaches pulled-up, were houses and cottages on the right; but on the left was Farm land with old farm buildings and sheds. The river Effra ran between the farm and the road. A little hamlet had grown up around The White Horse, and beyond it were detached cottages and houses on the left, behind the Effra; and on the right, a Park, called in those days "Angell Park," with noble trees and an old red brick mansion, enclosed by an undulating bank, with trees and rustic fencing. A horse pond in the Park ran through the hedge into the road for the use of passers-by.

The river Effra on its way from the high grounds of Brixton to the Thames, intersected Kennington. It was a sparkling

river running over a bright gravelly bottom, and supplied fresh water to the neighbourhood. Occasionally the water was muddied, at its source, by the rain floods washing down the banks, and occasionally, at its outlet, by the Thames' floods sending up mud. This river is now a Sewer, and most of it is included within the gardens of the houses; in front of the shops it is used as private ground.

Some districts South of the Thames were not favoured with rivers of pure water, and the common supply was rain-water and water dipped from the Thames' ditches, passed through large stone filters for domestic use. In those days the "impurities of the Thames" were not known; houses were drained into cesspools, and the refuse of the few noxious trades (which were carried-on in the marshes) was utilized on the spot or taken away for use elsewhere. Large premises, many private houses, and the coach roads, had wells of spring water.

The last old private spring-water-well in Kennington, was

probably one in the rear of a house near St. Mark's road.

Kennington Common was little more than waste land, with hillocks, ponds, and ditches. The coach roads cut it into several parts. The largest part faced the main road and was backed by a small road (a cul-de-sac) in which the name of "Manley" appeared. At one end of the Common was a road called South Place and at the other, the New road to Camberwell. A corner of "no man's land" was cut off by the New road to Camberwell.

The Common, was little cared for, for many years before it was properly enclosed—the rail, was broken so that shows, stalls, and pulpits were taken inside without license or obstruction. there being no Police to keep order. North and East were some detached houses and cottages with good gardens; the unbuilt portions opened on to extensive garden grounds. Some houses in "Manley" road backed on to the Common and had back gates on to it, which gates were not built-out when the Common was made into a "Park." York Place, Camberwell New Road, was built on an edge of the Common, between the road and a ditch. and from the gardens were gates, and planks over the ditch on to the Common. Facing South Place was a strip of Common which could not be enclosed as part of the "Park," and by arrangement, it had a separate enclosure. An old and much frequented footpath, between hedge and ditch, led from the Common in an easterly direction, to a picturesque group of trees

in the gardens of some old houses. Portions of this wooded property were, in after years, converted into a little *Vauxhall*, known as the "Wyndham Gardens." The ditch remained, after the modern houses in Thomas Street were built, and from the gardens were planks over the ditch on to the footpath, now Farmer's Road.

The South-west angle was further bounded by the river Effra on the South, and in 1819, bore the complete aspect of "no man's land." St. Mark's Church stands on this part and its site is said to have been the actual spot where culprits from the

County of Surrey were executed.

There was a corner called "no man's land" for years after the houses in Camberwell New Road and in the Brixton Road were built. On it stood the remains of the Old Pound, some large trees, old posts, and rubbish. When enclosed, it was cleared of all but the trees, some of which were left on the public footpath for a long time. In this corner are three gates, two from the gardens of the end houses, and one, from Surrey Canal Land. Whatever privileges these gates conferred, for a time, on the owners of them, the privileges were lost when "the Corner" was enclosed; but perhaps it was not expedient to build-out the gates as "encroachments."

The land from St. Mark's Church to South Island Place was partly built upon before 1819. On the South bank of the Effra was an ancient footpath from road to road. At the corners were "Road-side Inns:"—That on the Brixton Road, The Swan, was a picturesque old building with tiled roofs; and between the

house and the Effra was a tea garden and trees.

The Tea Garden on the Brixton Road was surrounded by trees. The dead stump of one of these was standing recently, and soon after that was removed, the post and rail fence which enclosed the garden, was taken away. Behind the Inn was a narrow court with remains of old cottages:—That on the Clapham Road, The Greyhound, was extensively modernised into a high house and deprived of its old attractions for wayfarers before The Swan was altered. Between the Inns were some old cottages and two houses; a third was added in after years, and behind these houses were two long fields, enclosed with hedge rows, trees and ditches. In South Island Place some of the old cottages remain, and in the Brixton and the Clapham roads were houses and cottages, some in rows, some detached, and many spaces between them which were to built upon.

The farm land, opposite The Swan, could be dealt with more expeditiously, on changing hands, owing to its large extent and its freedom from houses, than the remainder of smaller properties, fitfully built twenty or thirty years before, without regard to roads, the objectionable angles of houses in proximity to waste lands being conspicuous in Kennington. This prominent piece of land, bounded by the Brixton, Cranmer, Foxley, and Camberwell New Roads assumed a definite shape; but the houses around it were not built in dense rows at first, or, upon In the centre was a large field; there were many interesting old landmarks in this field; some have been lost and some remain. On the New Road side was a strip of land belonging to the Surrey Canal Company. On the Cranmer Road side are some old thick garden walls of historical interest; and in the Cranmer Road (opposite Chryssell Road) remains a house, much older than any other house for a long distance. It sets back in a garden and the old red brick front of part of it was intact a few years ago; it is now plastered, but some of the old windows remain. The other part has been encased in modern brickwork and made into a separate house. Both parts are said to contain relics of antiquity, especially two fine mantel-pieces. These houses were part of the "Farm Buildings" formerly conspicious from the Brixton Road when there were no other houses near them.

An impression prevails that there were stables belonging to the Archbishop of Canterbury where the Chryssell Road now is, and also, that a "very old timber shed" remains in one of the gardens near, but it is only an old shed from its having timbers from an older building in it, which gives no antiquarian interest to the structure.

The Surrey Canal Company intended the Canal to go from Rotherhithe through Kennington to Vauxhall. They acquired land for that purpose, but did not get further than the Camberwell Road. The route of their unused land was traceable forty years ago; most of the land has been given up to building operations, and could not now be traced without reference to plans and documents. Three fixed points however remain in Kennington; one in the Camberwell New Road; one in the Brixton Road; one in the Clapham Road. The first is a shed between the private houses and the shops before reaching S. Mark's Road, it is said to have been sold of late years as "Free-hold," and beyond this shed was a long strip of unused land,

now divided and added to the gardens of houses. The second is the gate, before referred to, in "The Corner," now used as part of Kennington Park. The third is a strip of land from Clapham Road to the Oval, between the new high houses and the shops opposite S. Mark's Church, this land was recently laid open for a sewer.

It may here be mentioned that a long piece of the Effra, overshadowed by pollard trees, ran at the Vauxhall end of the Lawn, South Lambeth. It became an open sewer and remained

uncovered until a few years ago.

The ancient Common at Kennington was of great extent, and without doubt included the waste lands of the Oval, Kennington Green, The Triangle, and the site of Lambeth Vestry Hall. The Oval was of little importance until S. Mark's Vicarage was built; such houses and cottages as there were before then were few and scattered. Beyond the Vestry Hall was a row of old cottages commonly called "Pest" or "Plague" houses; they were substantially built of red bricks and covered with red tiles: they retained many signs of antiquity, and were, to the last, interesting relics of the past.

Kennington Lane was an old narrow road from Newington Butts to Lambeth, and when the road from Kennington to Westminster was made good houses gathered around "The Cross," and the place began to lose its country aspect. Vacant frontages were by degrees built upon, and in due time S. Mark's Church was erected; this became the nucleus of a fresh population. The Church and the new houses in the Camberwell New Road and the Brixton Road made the greatest change in Kennington. A very large district, familiarly called "A parish," was taken out of St. Mary, Lambeth, for St. Mark's; but the houses were few and scattered, and it took some years to deprive the new parish of its rural character.

Kennington is a mere speck in the lands, on the Surrey side of the Thames, which belonged to the See and the Chapter of Canterbury in early Saxon times. Whatever the Anglo-Saxon tenures of these lands were, are hidden in ancient Charters and curious documents, unknown to modern antiquaries and unnecessary for modern lawyers. The lands were of two kinds—(1) Those known as "Commons," "Fields," "Greens," and "Wastes"—all of which, in ancient times, yielded nominal rents, small fines, and smaller fees; moreover, the payments were never—verely enforced, the management of such property having been

weak from time immemorial. (2) Lands cultivated for corn, hay, and vegetables, for monastic and other communities, the rents of which were tangible and important sources of income to.

Church and people.

It is notorious that common lands throughout the country have always been subjected to the encroachments of squatters and the unlawful takers of edges of Commons;—and "bits of no-man's-land." This ancient practice led to numberless difficulties in modern times, many of which, however, have been cleared away by new laws enacted since all land became more valuable. A title of two centuries, or, several generations is accepted as sufficient. It is left to antiquaries to go back many centuries and then they come upon records of the wholesale plunder of other men's estates by violence. Encroachers upon land are, even in these days, left in possession of their "bits," if they cannot be forcibly ejected; or if they are not paid their own price for them.

Careful maps of Kennington were made before A.D. 1800, showing how few buildings there were on these lands, and careful maps made after 1800 confirm the older ones, and show the new roads, made across the fields and garden grounds, within

a radius of two miles from Lambeth Old Church.

Some information might be gathered from the title deeds of S. Mark's Church; the Ecclesiastical Commissioners search deeply into the rights and claims of persons who think they have a money interest in land which the Commissioners desire to convey to the Church. The title deeds of The Vicarage the same; these were no doubt consulted when it was proposed to enfranchise a piece of the garden.

I hope these "Recollections" may interest you as a Vicar of

Kennington. With much respect, I am,

Dear Sir,

Very faithfully yours, GEO. BUCKLER.

107, Camberwell New Road, S.E. April 23rd, 1885.



ENTRANCE TO VAUXHALL GARDENS.

#### CHAPTER X.

# "VAUXHALL GARDENS."

(Inam much indebted to Cassell's "Old and New London" for this part of my subject. That work has entered very fully indeed into the history of the above Gardens. But I have also benefited largely by having had placed at my disposal a very fine collection of original documents of all kinds, in the possession of Mr. Evanion, but sold since I used them to a wealthy collector in Paris).

The other day an old man, formerly a waiter in the Gardens, came to see me at my request, to give me some notion at first hand, of the doings in that famous resort. But a waiter's point of view is necessarily a limited one. His father had been there before him, and he confessed that, as a rule, his companions were

too much given to drinking. But this is not surprising, for my informant mentioned how the nobility used to drink heavily there, and often concluded their supper by piling the wine-glasses one upon the other in order to knock them all down. On one occasion, at an hour past mid-night, the cook of the Gardens rushed up to this waiter and implored his assistance. He must send some one up to the market to buy fowls and other food, for the demand was enormous. On another evening (or early morning) the cook asked him to come and help in the kitchen, for orders for 400 roast fowls had just come in? Later on in my story I will give an extract describing one of these supper parties.

The celebrated Vauxhall Gardens covered an area of eleven acres, somewhat larger in fact than the "Oval:" The entrance was exactly opposite the present Harleyford Road, though no such road existed then. Aglance at the map, pages 72 & 73, will

show the position distinctly.

The first mention of the Gardens occurs in a record of the Duchy of Cornwall, in 1615: The property then belonged to Mrs. Jane Vaux; she had a house called Stock-dens (or Stoc-dens), and the grounds attached to the residence were named The Spring Gardens, "a name which they retained in theory and in official documents to the very last, though popularly known as Vauxhall Gardens. The exact date at which these grounds were first opened to the public is now involved in obscurity. Wycherley, about the year 1677, speaks of taking a syllabub at the new Spring Gardens." (Cassell). But in 1663, the place is described as "laid out in squares, enclosed with hedges of gooseberries, within which are roses, and beans and asparagus:" Therefore at this period they may possibly have been market gardens.

But another person has been claimed to have been the original possessor of these Gardens—Sir Samuel Morland, a well-known character in the time of the Commonwealth, and of Charles II. It is said that Morland took a lease, in 1665, of Vauxhall House (the site is now covered by Messrs. Burnett's distillery) and added spacious Gardens and fountains to it. It was discovered in after years that the dwelling house attached to the Gardens was built by Sir Samuel, for in 1794 a lead pump was removed from it bearing the inscription "S.M., 1694." This gentleman was very fond of all mechanical contrivances. He is supposed to have been the first inventor of the speaking trumpet (the "Tubastentorophonica" as it was at first magnificently called), and also

of the fire engine, of a special capstan for ships, and of two arithmetical machines which were able to work out the simple sums of the first three rules. Above all, he seems to have gained some knowledge of the steam engine. So ingenious a gentleman was certain to have strange appliances in his house: and we are told that the side table in the dining room was supplied with a large fountain, and the glasses stood under little streams of water. His coach had in it a kind of kitchen, with clockwork machinery, with which he could make soup, broil steaks or roast a joint of meat. When he travelled he was his own cook. So much then for the private owners of this place more than 200 years ago.

In 1667 Pepys in his diary says (May 28th), "Went by water to Fox Hall, and there walked in Spring Gardens. A great deal of company: the weather and gardens pleasant, and cheap going thither: for a man may go to spend what he will, or nothing at all: all is one. But to hear the nightingale and other birds, and here fiddles and there a harp, and here a Jew's harp, and there laughing, and there to see fine people walking, is very diverting."

Nearly fifty years afterwards Addison visited the spot in the company of "Sir Roger de Coverley." He speaks of the fragrancy of the walks and bowers, with the choirs of birds that sang upon the trees. "Sir Roger told me it put him in mind of a little coppice by his house in the country, which his chaplain used to call an aviary of nightingales." These two worthies concluded their walk with a glass of Burton ale and a slice of hung beef.

I can find no information about the place after this till 1732, when the Gardens and the whole of the premises came into possession of Jonathan Tvers. His name now is only known as belonging to a street in Vauxhall: let those who pass that way remember that it recalls some of the most important memories of Tyers opened the premises with a grand the old Gardens. advertisement of a "ridotto al fresco," a high sounding name which simply means an out-door entertainment. He tried to make the gardens a resort for the best society. Apparently he was not very successful at first, until at length he met with a man who showed him how to succeed. The following account is from a selection of anecdotes entitled "Art and Artists:" I take it from Cassell's Book: "Soon after his marriage, Hogarth had summer lodgings at South Lambeth, and hence became intimate with Jonathan Tyers, the proprietor of Vauxhall On passing the tavern which stood at the entrance one morning, Hogarth saw Tyers and observing him to be very

melancholy, asked him, "How now, Master Tyers, why so sad this morning?" "Sad times these, Master Hogarth," replied Tyers, "and my reflections were on a subject not likely to brighten a man's countenance. I was thinking which is the easiest death, hanging or drowning." "Oh! said Hogarth, "is it come to that?" "Very nearly, I assure you," replied Tyers. "Then," said Hogarth, "the remedy that you think of applying is not likely to mend the matter: don't hang or drown yourself to-day, my friend. I have a thought that may save the necessity of either, and will communicate it to you if you will call on me to-morrow morning, at my studio in Leicester Fields." Hogarth recommended that he should himself paint some pictures for the pavilions. To Hogarth were due the paintings called "Four parts of the Day," and two scenes -" Evening" and "Night," with portraits of Henry VIII. and Ann Boleyn. A painter named Hayman, one of the earliest members of the Royal Academy, and at one time a scene painter at Drury Lane, copied these designs of Hogarth. Tyers in return for these favours presented Hogarth with a gold ticket of admission in perpetuity for himself and for his friends: and this ticket was handed down to Hogarth's decendants: This ticket admitted six persons and as this was the usual number for a coach in those days, it was entitled to admit "one coach."

An account is given of one of these earliest entertainments in June, 1732. The company numbered about 400, and there were ten men to one woman. Most of them are said to have worn dominos, lawyer's gowns, masks, and other disguises. "The company," it is related, "retired between three and four in the morning, and order was preserved by 100 soldiers, who were stationed at the entrance."

Strange to say these Gardens became so famous in a short time that the French opened Gardens of the same kind and called them "Vauxhall" For instance, in a letter from S. Germain, written in 1777, the writer says that an English gentleman came to our Vauxhall with a large mastiff, which was refused admittance, and so the gentleman left him to the care of the Body Guards, who are placed there. The owner of the dog, sometime after he had gained admittance, returned and informed the Guards that he had lost his watch, and said that if he might take the dog he would soon discover the thief. His request being granted, the gentleman made motions to the dog of what he had lost, and the dog immediately ran about amidst the

company and traversed the gardens till at last he laid hold of a man. The gentleman insisted that this was the thief, and on his being searched, not only that watch, but six others were discovered in his pockets. What is more remarkable, the dog possessed that perfection of instinct that he took his master's watch from the other six and carried it away.

I have mentioned the tickets of admission to the Gardens. Hogarth himself designed the figures on the silver and copper

tickets.

In 1738 the following notice was issued by the Master of the Gardens:—"A thousand tickets only will be delivered out at 24s. each; the silver of every ticket to be worth 3s. 6d., and to admit two persons every evening, Sundays excepted, during the season. . . . . No servants in livery to walk in the garden. All subscribers are warned not to permit their tickets to get into the hands of persons of ill repute, there being an absolute necessity to exclude such" (from Cassell's "London").

Let us now imagine that parties of friends have arrived, and that the lamps in the gardens are all lighted. The woodcut represents a quiet country set in an arbour being delicately "chaffed" by some young men dressed in the height of fashion.

An amusing account is given by Horace Walpole of a remarkably gay party which he accompanied on June 21st, 1750: he adds, "We minced seven chickens into a china dish, which Lady Caroline stewed over a lamp with three parts of butter and a flagon of water, stirring, rattling, and laughing, and we every moment expecting to have the dish fly about our ears. brought Betty, the fruit girl, with hampers, and strawberries and cherries, and made her wait upon us, and then made her sup by us at a little table." This party, it is said, picked up Lord Granby on their way back from their evening's amusement. The Marquis of Granby was a well-known character in those days: the best proof of it is that we still find so many taverns called after him, with his portrait swinging over the door. He commanded the English troops in the French War, and won distinction at the Battle of Minden. I have unearthed a strange story about this worthy soldier, which connects him somewhat with Vauxhall Gardens. It will be remembered that the pictures adorning the buildings there were designed by Hogarth and executed by Hayman, who had a lodging in S. Martin's Lane. Hayman also was engaged upon the features of some of the British heroes of the day. The Marquis of Granby walked into his studio one day and told him that he had come at the request of their mutual friend, Mr. Tyers, (proprietor of the Gardens), to sit to him for his portrait. "But, Frank," said the Marquis, "before I sit to you, I insist upon having a set-to with you." Hayman did not understand his meaning; whereupon his visitor continued, "I have been told your were one of the best boxers of the school of Broughton, and I am not altogether deficient in the pugilistic art: but since I have been in Germany I am a little out of practice: therefore, we will have a fair trial of strength and



AN ARBOUR IN THE GARDENS.

skill." Hayman pleaded his age and his gout as insuperable obstacles. To the first objection the Marquis replied that there was little to choose between them: and to the second that exercise was a specific remedy: and added "A few rounds will cause a glow of countenance that will give an animation to the canvas." At length they fell to it, and, after some sparring, Hayman gave his lordship such a blow in the stomach that they both fell with a tremendous noise upon the floor, and so shook the house, that Mrs. Hayman came running up stairs, and discovered her

old and gouty husband, the artist, rolling and fighting with the

most distinguished general in the British Army.

There are many stories about the enormous prices of provisions at the suppers in the Gardens: an old inhabitant of Kennington tells me that when he was young it was not uncommon to be charged a shilling for a lettuce. In 1775, "the Connoisseur" recounts the adventures of a citizen and his family at the Gardens, and the horror of paterfamilias at the charges. arranged to have supper and one of the daughters suggested a chicken. "No, no," said the father; "they are half-a-crown a piece, and no bigger than a sparrow." Here, the mother struck in: "You are so stingy, Mr. Rose, there is no bearing you. When one is out upon a party of pleasure, I love to appear somebody: and what signifies a few shillings once in a way, when a body is about it?" This reproof encouraged the young ladies to ask for ham likewise: when the waiter had brought a chicken and a plate of ham, the citizen surveyed the ham with a serious countenance, took up a slice and weighed it upon his fork: "A shilling's worth here—weighs an ounce—that is, sixteen shillings a pound; a reasonable profit surely. If the ham weighs thirty pounds, why your master makes twenty-four pounds on every ham: and if he buys the best, and salts them himself, they cost him ten shillings apiece." The remainder of the story relates how he ate his ham and how he paid ruefully for a supper, which he never could forget in after days.

There is hardly a novelist or humourist who lived while the Gardens existed who does not introduce us into these scenes—Addison, Hogarth, Oliver Goldsmith, Dr. Johnson, Macaulay, Douglas Jerrold, Leigh Hunt, Thackeray and Dickens. Probably most of my readers can remember the visit of Pendennis and Captain Costigan, and the porter's family from Shepherd's Inn.

One frequent visitor during the close of the last century was a person named Sir John Dinely. He was an eccentric baronet, well known for his advertisements in search of a wife. He used to appear in the Vauxhall Gardens on public nights, two or three times a season, and parade up and down the most public parts: and whenever it was known that he was coming the ladies flocked in very large numbers to see this notorious personage. He wore his wig fastened in a curious manner by a piece of tape under his chin, and was always dressed in a cloak with long flowing folds, and a broad hat which looked as if it had come out of a picture by Vandyke. In spite, however, of his attempts to

gain a rich wife by the help of an advertisement, he died a

bachelor as a "poor knight" at Windsor, 1808.

In an advertisement inserted in the "Ipswich Journal," in August 21st, 1802, he concludes: "Fortune favours the bold. Such ladies as this advertisement may induce to apply or send their agents (but no servants or matrons) may direct to me at Windsor Castle. The lady who shall thus become my wife will be a baroness (baronetess?) and rank accordingly as Lady Dinely of Windsor." (from Cassell's "London").

Here is a stray anecdote dating from May, 1769: "A young gentleman at Vauxhall, having made himself very ridiculous by walking about with a false nose on, an officer of the Guards took him by the sleeve, and after some altercation, literally obliged him to put his nose into his pocket, to the great satisfaction of

the company."

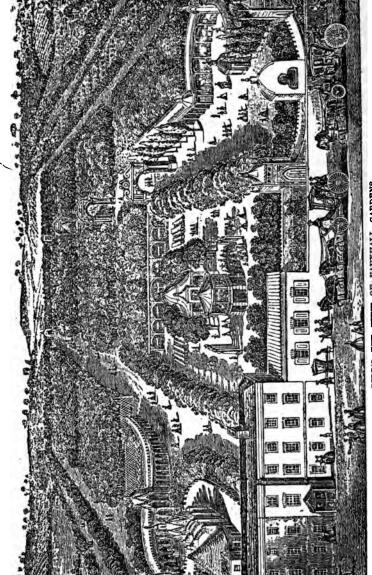
Coming to quite a modern date, within the life-time of many of my readers, it is related in Forster's "Life of Dickens," that Dickens came to the Gardens on June 29th, 1849, with Judge Talfourd, Stanfield, and Sir Edwin Landseer. The "Battle of Waterloo" formed part of the entertainment. "We were astounded," writes Mr. Forster, "to see pass in immediately before us, in a bright white overcoat, 'the great duke' himself, with Lady Douro on his arm, the little Lady Ramsays by his side, and everybody cheering and clearing the way for him. That the old hero enjoyed it all there could be no doubt; and he made no secret of his delight in 'young Hernandez.' But the battle was undeniably tedious, and it was impossible not to sympathize with the repeatedly and audibly expressed wish of Talfourd that 'the Prussians would come up.'"

Ladies' hats are sometimes made very tall. Samuel Rogers, in his "Table Talk," says that he could just remember going to the Gardens in a coach with a lady who was obliged to sit on a little stool, placed at the bottom of the vehicle, as the height of her head-dress did not allow her to occupy the regular seat.

(Cassell.)

The cut, giving a view of Vauxhall Gardens as they were in their prime, is a reproduction of one to be found in an old number of "The Mirror," A general account of the Gardens, as given in "The Circuit of London," will act as a guide to the picture.

"The season for opening the gardens commences some time in May, and continues till towards the end of August. Every



BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF AVAILABLE GARDENS

evening (Saturday and Sunday excepted) they are opened at half-past six. The gala nights are usually on Wednesdays and Fridays.

The great gate is at the end of a short avenue from the road, where the admission is three shillings. The first scene that salutes the eye is a noble gravel walk, nine hundred feet long, planted on each side with a row of stately elms, which form a fine vista, terminated by the representation of a temple, in which is a transparency, emblematic of gratitude to the public.

A few steps to the right is a quadrangle, called the Grove. In the centre a magnificent Gothic orchestra is ornamented with carvings, niches, &c. The ornaments are plastic, a composition imitating plaster of Paris. In fine weather the musical entertainments are performed here by a band of vocal and instrumental performers. At the upper extremity of this orchestra is a fine organ, and at the foot of it are the seats and desks for the musicians, placed in a semi-circular form, leaving a vacancy at the front for the vocal performers. The concert is opened with instrumental music at eight o'clock, after which the company are entertained with various songs and concertos till the close of the entertainment at eleven.

In the front of a large timber building, approached from the middle of the great room, is a painting called the Day Scene. At the end of the first act, this is drawn up to exhibit the scene of a cascade, with a very natural representation of a water-mill, and a bridge, with a mail coach, a Greenwich long stage, &c. This exhibition lasts ten minutes. A glee and catch, in three or four parts, are performed in the middle and at the end of the musical bill of fare, which consists of sixteen pieces.

In the Grove, fronting the orchestra, tables and benches are placed for the company, and a pavilion of the composite order, built for Frederick Prince of Wales. Behind is a drawing-room, entered from the outside of the garden, for the admittance of the Royal Family.

The Grove is illuminated by about two thousand glass lamps, and a great number of variegated lamps are interspersed, which produce a fine effect.

In cold or rainy weather the musical performance is in a rotunda, seventy feet in diameter, and nearly opposite the grand orchestra. Along the front is a colonade, formed by a range of pillars, under which is the entrance from the Grove to the room in which is the little orchestra. The roof is a dome, slated on



the outside, and is so contrived, that sounds never vibrate under it: so that the music is heard to the greatest advantage. This pavilion is made to represent a magnificent tent, the roof of which is of blue and yellow silk in alternate stripe; it seems to be supported by twenty pillars, representing Roman fasces gilt, and bound together by deep rose-coloured ribbons, with military trophies in the intervals. The sides drawn up, in the form of festoons, produce the beautiful appearance of a flower garden; the upper part being painted all round like a sky, and the lower part, above the seats, with shrubs, flowers, and other rural decorations. At the extremity, opposite the orchestra, is a saloon, the entrance of which is formed by columns of the Ionic order, painted in imitation of scagliola; the roof is arched and elliptic, ornamented with two little cupolas; from the centre of each descends a large glass chandelier. Adjoining to the walls are ten three-quarter Ionic columns, painted in imitation of scagliola. Between these columns are four pictures (in magnincent gilt frames), by the masterly pencil of Hayman.

The first represents the surrender of Montreal, in Canada, to General Amherst. On a stone, at one corner of the picture, is

inscribed :-

'Power exerted, Conquest obtained, Mercy shewn! 1760.'

The second represents Britannia holding a medallion of George III. and sitting on the right-hand of Neptune, in his chariot drawn by sea horses. In the back ground is the defeat of the French fleet by Sir Edward Hawke, in 1759. Round the chariot of Neptune are attendant sea nymphs, holding medallions of the most distinguished admirals in that glorious war. For that of Admiral Hawke (afterwards lord) he sat to the painter. The third represents Lord Clive receiving the homage of the Nabob of Bengal. The fourth represents Britannia distributing laurels to the following principal officers who served in that war: the Marquis of Granby, the Earl of Albemarle, General (late Marquis) Townshend, Colonels Monckton, Coote, &c.

The entrance into this saloon, from the gardens, is through a Gothic portal, on each side of which, on the inside, are the pictures of King George III. and Queen Charlotte in their

coronation robes.

A few years ago a new room, one hundred feet by forty, was added to the rotunda. It is now opened as a supper room. In a recess at the end of it is the beautiful marble statue of Handel, formerly in the open gardens. He is represented, like

Orpheus, playing on the lyre. This was the first display of the wonderful abilities of Roubiliac. Although not so large as the life, it is very like the original; and the excellence of the sculptor exhibits a model of perfection, both in the design and execution.

The Grove is bounded by gravel walks and a number of pavilions, ornamented with paintings; and each pavilion has a table that will hold six or eight persons. The first on the lefthand, from the principal entrance to the garden, represents two Mahometans gazing in astonishment at the beauties of the place. 2. A shepherd playing on his pipe, and decoying a shepherdess into a wood. 3. New River Head, at Islington. 4. Quadrille, and the tea equipage. 5. Music and singing. 6. Building houses with cards. 7. A scene in the "Mock Doctor." 8. An Archer. 9. Dances round the Maypole. 10. Thread my needle. 11. Flying the kite. 12. Pamela revealing to Mr. B's housekeeper her wishes to return home. 13. A scene in "the Devil 14. Shuttlecock. 15. Hunting the whistle. Pamela flying from Lady Davers. 17. A scene in the "Merry Wives of Windsor." 18. A sea engagement between the Spaniards and Moors.

The pavilions continue in a sweep leading to a beautiful piazza and colonnade five hundred feet in length, in the form of a semi-circle, of Gothic architecture, embellished with rays. In this semi-circle are three large temples, each adorned with a dome; the two latter are now converted into portals (one as an entrance into the great room and the other as a passage to view the cascade), which are directly opposite to each other: the middle temple is still a place for the reception of company, and is painted in the Chinese taste, with the story of Vulcan entrapping Mars and Venus in a net. On each side the adjoining pavilion is decorated with a painting; that on the right represents the entrance into Vauxhall, and that on the left Friendship on the grass drinking. The paintings in the upper pavilions of this sweep are landscapes. A sweep of pavilions thence lead into the great walk, in the last of these is a painting of Black-eyed Susan returning to shore.

Returning to the Grove, and beginning at the east end, behind the orchestra, and opposite the semi-circle above mentioned; the pavilions are decorated with the following pieces: 1. Difficult to please; 2. Sliding on the ice; 3. Bagpipes and hautboys; 4. A bonfire at Charing Cross; the Salisbury stage overturned.

&c.; 5, Blindman's buff; 6. Leap frog: 7. The Wapping landlady, and the tars just come ashore; 8. Skittles.

Another range of pavilions, is adorned with paintings, forming another side of the quadrangle. These are, I. The taking of Porto Bello; 2. Mademoiselle Catherina, the dwarf; 3. Ladies angling; 4. Bird-nesting; 5. The play at bob-cherry; 6. Falstaff's cowardice detected; 7. The bad family; 8. The good family; 9. The taking of a Spanish register-ship, in 1742.

In the centre of a semi-circle of pavilions, with a temple and dome at each end, is the entrance of an anti-room, leading to the Prince's Gallery, built in 1791, and opened on masquerade and gala nights only. It is near four hundred feet long, and adorned on each side by landscapes in compartments, between paintings of double columns, encircled in a spiral form by festoons of flowers. At one end, is a fine transparency, representing the Prince of Wales in armour, leaning against his horse, held by Britannia, while Minerva is holding the helmet, and Providence fixing the spurs: Fame appears above, with her trumpet, and a wreath of Laurel. The anti-room, erected in 1792, is fitted up with arabesque ornaments, between fluted pillars.

The remainder of the paintings in this range are, 1. Bird-catching; 2. See-saw; 3. Fairies dancing by moonlight; 4. The

milkmaid's garland; 5. The kiss stolen.

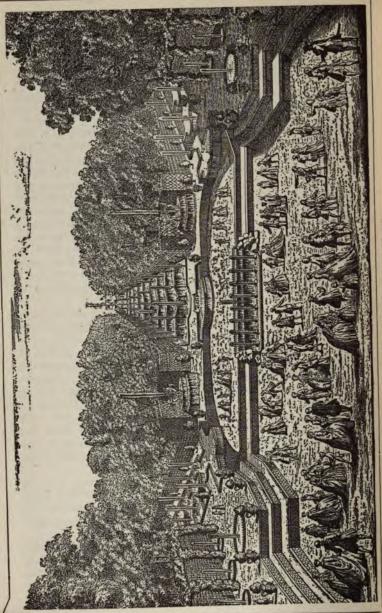
The turning on the left leads to a walk along the bottom of the gardens; on each side of which are pavilions; those on the left hand are decorated with the following paintings; 1. A prince and princess in traineau; 2. Hot cockles; 3. A gipsy telling fortunes by coffee-cups; 4. A Christmas Gambol; 5. Cricket.

The opposite row of pavilions at the extremity of this walk form another entrance into the garden immediately from the great road. At the other end of the walk, adjoining to the prince's, is a semi-circle of pavilions ornamented with three

Gothic temples.

A narrow vista that runs to the top of the gardens, is called the Druid's, or Lover's Walk: on both sides are rows of lofty trees which, meeting at the top and interchanging their boughs, form a fine verdant canopy. The anti-room runs across one part of this walk.

A noble vista is formed from the grand south walk, terminated by a Gothic temple, which is opened on gala nights, and exhibits four illuminated vertical columns, in motion, and, in the centre, an artificial fountain, effected by machinery.



The temple, in the centre of the cross walk, is the largest of the kind in England, built in 1786; the diameter is forty-four feet, and the dome is supported by eight lofty pillars. On the right this walk is terminated by a fine statue of Apollo; and, at the extremity on the left, is a painting of a stone quarry in the vicinity of Bristol.

Another gravel walk leading up the gardens, is formed on the right side by a wilderness, and on the left by rural downs, as they are termed, in the form of a long square, fenced by a net, with little eminences in it after the manner of a Roman camp.

The colonnade, which forms a square, was erected in the walks round the orchestra, and is an admirable shelter from the rain. It cost £200 the expense of which was defrayed by a Ridotto al Fresco. The roof, etc., are richly illuminated, particularly on a gala night, when upwards of fourteen thousand lamps have been used in the gardens at one time.

To detain visitors after the orchestra is closed, the proprietors have engaged a band of wind music to continue playing, whilst, at intervals, bands of Savoyards contribute to enliven the scene. Not one of these performers is permitted to take money, or any refreshment from the company. On gala nights, the band of the Duke of York's regiment of guards, dressed in full uniform, adds to the splendour of the gardens by the magnificence of military

harmony.

Balloons.—At the beginning of this century the first balloon ascent was made from these Gardens. In 1802 Mr. Garnerin made a perilous journey of 300 miles, starting from Vauxhall. But Mr. Green was a more experienced erronaut. The Mirror of September, 1836, describes a visit to these gardens on a wet, damp, day, when the fittings of the place, meant for candlelight, looked extremely coarse and unattractive, like the stage of a theatre in broad daylight. There the visitor saw Mr. Green's balloon being inflated—a huge thing, 150 feet in circumference, and 80 feet high. On September 9th, 1836, this balloon made its ascent. Whilst it was being inflated thirty-six policemen seized the ropes: in an hour's time 56-lb. weight of iron was necessary, and by degrees forty-one pieces of this weight were required: then twenty other people assisted to keep the monster At length nine persons took their seats, among them were members of Mr. Green's family, and Mr. E. Gye, son of the proprietor. The excursionists on this occasion alighted at Cliffe, in Kent. In about the same year, however, Messrs. Green, Monck,

Mason, and Holland ascended from the Gardens in the "Nassau" balloon, and next morning came to earth near Coblentz, in

Germany.

The papers of the day give the following condensed account:—
"The ascent took place at 1.30, on Monday: at 5.12, the travellers quitted England at Dover: at 5.50, they had reached Calais. They then passed close to Brussels and Waterloo, and then were in total darkness till 5 A.M., at which hour they found that they were two miles above the earth: they descended at Coblentz,

after a journey of 480 miles."

DESCENT OF A PARACHUTE, AND DEATH OF MR. COCKING.— Bell's Life of July 30th, 1837, contains an account of the fatal experiment of Mr. Cocking, who attempted to descend from a height of a mile in a parachute. The instrument in question was shaped like an umbrella—107 feet in circumference—but the cavity containing the air was turned uppermost, with the view of preventing the oscillation, which proved disastrous to Mr. Garnerin. Mr. Cocking, though he pretended to be quite confi-At 7.40 P.M., the great dent, seemed very ill at ease in reality. "Nassau" balloon ascended, and to the bottom of this was attached the parachute (which, by the way, was made of fine A vast crowd of people filled the gardens, and as the balloon ascended the band of the Surrey Yeomanry struck up the National Anthem, the parachute hanging some forty or fifty feet below the car of the balloon.

Mr. Gye, the proprietor of the Gardens, advised Mr. Cocking, if he felt at all doubtful, to give up the attempt, but he assured everyone that he had no fear. There was no wind, and the weight of the parachute kept the balloon perfectly steady. It rose perpendicularly in a very majestic manner, and continued in sight for about ten minutes, and then was lost in the clouds. A son of Mr. Gye followed the balloon on horseback, and when he had reached Lee, in Kent, he found that Mr. Cocking had fallen and had died without having been able to utter a word. Mr. Green, who was in the balloon, said that Mr. Cocking had asked him to ascend about 8,000 feet, at which height he proposed to detach himself. But it was found impossible to rise much above 5,000 feet because of the difficulty of throwing out the ballast without lodging it in the parachute below. By making it up into parcels, however, the travellers got rid of some 400 lbs., trusting that they should do no damage to people below. After saying good night, Mr. Cocking, at the second attempt,

released himself from the car above him, and instantly the balloon shot up with the velocity of a sky rocket.

"The effect upon us at this moment is almost beyond The immense machine, whilst it appeared to be description. forced upwards with terriffic violence and rapidity, amidst the howlings of a fearful hurricane, rolled about as though revelling in a freedom for which it had long struggled. It at length, as if somewhat fatigued by its exertions, gradually assumed the motions of a snake, working its way with astonishing speed towards a given object. During this frightful operation, the gas was rushing in torrents from the upper and lower valves, but more particularly from the lower, as the density of the atmosphere through which we were forcing our progress pressed so heavily upon the valve at the top of the balloon as to admit of comparitively but a small escape by that aperture. At this juncture, had it not been for the application to our mouths of two pipes leading into an air bag, with which we had furnished ourselves previous to starting, we must have been suffocated within a minute, and so, by different means, have shared the melancholy fate of our friend. This bag was formed of silk, sufficiently capacious to contain 100 gallons of atmospheric air. Prior to our ascent, the bag was inflated, with the assistance of a pair of bellows, with fifty gallons of air, so allowing for any expansion which might be produced in the upper regions. Into one end of this bag were introduced two flexible tubes, and the moment we felt ourselves to be going up, in the manner just described, Mr. Spencer, as well as myself, each placed one of these in our mouths. By this simple contrivance we preserved ourselves from instantaneous suffocation, a result which must have ensued from the apparent endless volume of gas with which the car was enveloped. The gas, notwithstanding all our precautions from the violence of its operation on the human frame, almost immediately deprived us of sight, and we were both in a state of total darkness for between four and five minutes. As soon as we had partially regained the use of our eyes, and had somewhat recovered from the effects of the awful scene into which we had been plunged, our first attention was directed to the barometer. I soon discovered that my powers had not sufficiently returned to enable me to see the mercury, but Mr. Spencer found that it stood at 13.20, giving an elevation of 23,384 feet or about four miles and a quarter. do not conceive, from the length of time I had been liberating

the gas, that this was anything like our greatest altitude, for we were effecting a rapid descent. We continued to descend with great rapidity. Recollecting the late hour at which we quitted Vauxhall, I ascertained that it wanted not more than a quarter to nine. When we had reached within 300 feet of the ground we proceeded to cast out every article of ballast and moveable matter. After calling out for some time, we heard voices, and the parties drew us to a safe place of landing, which proved to be close to the village of Offham, near Town Malling, in Kent. Professor G. Airey, Astronomer Royal of Greenwich, stated that he was watching the balloon with a common telescope, suddenly he heard a loud shout of persons in the park, and he knew that the parachute had got away. It had been stated that the parachute had kept its shape for forty or fifty seconds, but he was sure it did not retain its shape for more than four seconds, for he put his eye constantly to the glass and found the machine in a collapsed state. He was convinced there had been no turning over."

There was, of course, an inquest. At this some strange details came out. Mr. Gye stated that every day very extraordinary requests were made to him. One gentleman offered to ascend in a parachute by means of sky rockets, and then descend by means of the same apparatus as that used by the deceased. Mr. Cocking was living at this time at No. 1, South Island Place, Brixton Road.

VAN AMBURGH AT THE GARDENS.—There is lying before me a bill headed as follows:—"The most extraordinary novelty! Ascent of Mr. Van Amburgh and a Bengal tiger in the "Nassau" balloon, conducted by Mr. Green, Thursday, September 27th, 1838. The balloon with its novel cargo will leave the earth at three o'clock." (I believe, however, that this entertainment did

not take place).

Vauxhall Gardens gained at one time a remarkable character for its ill luck; It always rained upon the night of the fetes. A story is told about a countryman who came up one day to Mr. Tyers and earnestly begged him to state the day when the next great entertainment would be. Mr. Tyers told him, but asked in return why the man was so anxious to know the date. "Sir, said the farmer, "I shall now know when to plant my turnips, for it is sure to rain on the day when you have your fete." Even the proprietors used to join in the joke, and they sent out advertisements printed on huge umbrellas.

The following list of receipts and notes in the handwriting of Mr. Gye, the proprietor, may be of interest:—

RECEIPTS OF ONE NIGHT AT VAUXHALL GARDENS, AUGUST 13TH,

1	824	:

Paid at the doors Bought cards		•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	10,1	98
		• •••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••		70
							•	10,2	68
							£		<b>d</b> .
Arrack (for	puncl	h)			•••	•••	176	5	0
			•••	•••		•••	483	4	0
Cellar			•••	•••	•••	•••	344	0	0
Candles	•••		•••		•••	•••	_	19	0
Stout	•••		•••	•••	•••	1	<b>,83</b> 8	quar	ts.
Chickens	•••		, • •	•••	•••	•••	807		
Hams	••• _ ••	• •••	•••	•••	•••	•••	57		
Rounds of l				•••		•••	22	•	.1•

(N.B.—The Gardens prided themselves upon cutting slices of

ham through which one could see to read the paper.)

Hone's "Every day Book" contains an extraordinary account of one of the characters who frequented the Gardens about the year 1825. His real name was Joseph Leeming, but he called himself "The Aerial"; whether he was mad or not I cannot say. He was 5-ft.  $1\frac{1}{3}$ -in. in height, and this he called the perfect height, becoming angry with any one who ventured to doubt the fact. The question which excited the Aerial's mind was how he should make himself known to the public. He determined to do it by degrees: and the first step would be to have a cast taken of his "beautiful leg." He went to Mr. Haydon for this purpose, and we are told that the operation took till 11 P.M. friend retired; but an hour or two afterwards, fancying that he was being trifled with, he flew back to the spot, and rushing into the house bore the cast away. "The leg" was exhibited in a shop window for some time, until it broke; then the Aerial took the pieces, and, hurrying to Dover, buried them in the sea.

This extraordinary individual appeared at Vauxhall on Saturday, July 2nd, 1825, according to The Times. He were a Spanish costume, and distributed a number of cards about himself: then all of a sudden darted off like lightning, making a circuit of the Gardens until he reached the entrance, when he jumped into a carriage and vanished. He appeared again in this strange costume, "a jacket of blue and silver, white silk stockings,

blue kid shoes," etc., and threw himself into postures among the audience, comparing himself to ancient statues, while he was greeted with loud laughter by the audience. After this the eccentric but harmless man was refused entrance to the Gardens.

Here follows another document which I have seen in Mr. Gyo's handwriting about the organization of the Gardens, their expenses, etc. £800 seems a large sum for weekly expenses, apart from rent and taxes.

apart from rent and taxes.

Estimate of Weekly Expenses when	GA	RDENS	ARE	OPEN,
BESIDES RENT, TAXES,	ETC.	,		£
Music	•••	•••	•••	145
Juggler, Ballet, Grey, Child, Blackme	ore,	etc.		70
Fireworks		•••	٠	5 <b>4</b>
Lamps, including oil, breakage, etc.			•••	210
Tinmen, including charcoal, etc.		•••		10
Gardens, including sand, etc			•••	<b>3</b> 0
Painting, wages and colours	• • •		•••	15
Servants for beer, cellar, arrack, etc.	•••		•••	20
Doors, galleries, police and watch	•••	•••	•••	<b>4</b> 0
Printing and advertisements			•••	100
Smiths, plumbers, etc	•••	•••	•••	20
Salaries, Mr. Simpson and W. H.	•••	•••	•••	10
Wear and tear throughout establish	nent	exc (exc	$_{ m ept}$	
lamps) were last year	•••	•••	•••	36
August, 1824.			3	E800
	• '	,,		

Rules arranging for the economical closing."

"REGULATIONS OF THE BARS AND HOUSE DEPARTMENTS WHICH ARE UNDER THE SOLE DIRECTION OF MRS. Ross.

The house-keeping for the establishment begins one week before the opening of the Gardens and closes one week after the shutting thereof. This has always been allowed. Should any eatables or drinkables (such as beer, vinegar, etc.) remain, they are either returned or divided into three parts, and one part sent to each of the three proprietors.

The strictest regularity as to time for dining, etc., during the season must be rigidly attented to, as all the servants have particular duties for each succeeding hour, to prepare for the gala, and the least irregularity of time in one part operates on all the links of the chain that connects this great concern together. At the end of the week, after closing the Gardens, the establishment

is reduced to a rigid economy, nothing being allowed whatever except coals, candles and soap; one female servant alone is kept on board wages to attend to the house furniture under the direction of Mrs. Ross, who in every respect has been considered the mistress of the house and beer establishment. If the manager or treasurer resides in the house after the season he must find a second servant to wait upon him out of his own pocket, which Mr. Rouse has done.

The two watchman are both to be on duty from Ten o'clock at night until Five o'clock in the morning, going regularly their rounds and marking the tell-tales, which are placed for that purpose at different extremities of the Gardens. At Five o'clock in the morning one of the watchman goes home, and returns at One o'clock to relieve the other, who then goes home and returns at 10 o'clock at night. Thus the two are on duty all night, and one of them throughout the day in charge of the gate. (April, 1825)."

REGULATIONS RECOMMENDED BY THE MAGISTRATES ON GRANTING
THE BEER LICENCES FOR 1824.

1. That for the future there be no dark walks, and the whole of the Gardens, to which the public have excess, be kept thoroughly lighted until closed.

2. That a high fence be placed round all the shrubberies so as

to exclude the public from the plantations altogether.

3. That confidential persons be placed over the inferior servants of the Garden to report all irregularities to the Head Constable.

There was a brass band at one time in the gardens, and the performers prided themselves upon the tremendous noise they could make. Certainly the account given of the performance beats anything I have ever heard in this particular direction. In addition to an enormous number of the ordinary instruments, there was one which is described as something between a policeman's rattle and a big drum. The noise it made was so terrific that people had literally to be carried off from the scene terrified out of their senses.

The Boardmen.—I have been reading also the original letter written by the carriers of the advertising boards to the proprietors. The handwriting is ill-formed but vigorous. The letter runs as follows:—"September 23rd, 1837. The season having closed, we the boardmen of the Royal Property most respectfully beg leave to return you Gentlemen our sincere

thanks for the employment we have received. Before we depart we shall feel happy to drink your very good healths with three times three." I hope the poor fellows got their wish.

I have looked through many accounts of the artificial scenery displayed in the evening entertainment. The following gives some idea of the trouble taken. The subject was the expedition to the North Pole. There were icebergs 70-ft. high: whales were visible, spouting real water, and the waves dashed against the shore. A staff of 50 people was required to keep the machinery in motion.

Let us return again to some of the balance-sheets of the

undertaking.

In 1838, Mr. Gye says that £12,406 was taken in 73 nights. Another memorandum shows that nothing paid so well as the ascent of the monster balloon. He records that on 14 "Balloon days," including the evenings, they took £6,446, and on 59 nights, when no balloon ascended, the sum was £5,544. So again the biggest "Balloon night" brought in £1,110.

But in 1823, the number admitted during the whole season was 133,279. Of course the attendance was unevenly distributed. For instance, in that year, on August 12th, the sum of £2,315 4s. was taken, whereas ten days later the takings were on one evening only £98.

In 1826, 120,000 persons were admitted. The profits were in the following proportion:—Galleries and boxes produced £18,648 12s. 2d., and the sale of wines, etc., came to £10,941 11s. 11d. The profits upon the whole of this sum was £3,955.

The largest number ever admitted, except on the Coronation of William IV., was 20,137; and besides these, who all paid at the doors, there were some two thousand or more who, on that night, broke down the pailings and obtained admission without payment. On this night stout to the value of £120 was sold to the public.

But in spite of every effort Messrs. Hughes and Gye became bankrupt in 1841. When the case appeared in the papers several reasons were alleged: among these one was that in the olden days, in 1784, port and sherry was sold at 2s. 6d. a bottle, and yet that the profit on these wines was 100 per cent. Latterly they were being retailed at 6s. a bottle, and there was little profit. (This is an astonishing statement.)

The Gardens at Coronation time.—It appears that it was the custom in former times to provide amusements gratis upon the

Coronation Day. Thus at the Coronation of William IV. the Government gave the proprietors of Vauxhall Gardens £750 to open free. The consequence was that 40,000 persons visited the Gardens. When our present Queen was crowned in 1838, the Government only offered £200, and the Gardens consequently were closed. The Surrey Gardens and the Haymarket Theatre were also closed (for the same reason I suppose). On the other hand, 22 theatres and gardens were opened free to the public at the expense of the Government. When the proprietors of Vauxhall Gardens decided not to open on that night, they were asked to lend their 100,000 lamps to the clubs and institutions in

the West End for the purposes of illumination.

Bankruptcy.—I have mentioned already that, in spite of every effort, the Gardens were not a financial success. On September 9th, 1841, the place was sold, and all the effects were cleared off in lots by auction. I have been looking with a mournful interest at Mr. Gye's own catalogue, marked with his pencil, showing what were the articles he bought in himself. First, he evidently could not bear to part with what was called "The Temple of Arts." It is described as a structure of Spanish mahogany, exhibiting the five orders of architecture, and costing Mr. Gye bought it in for 70 guineas. Next, "The green-room glass." It was not so called in the catalogue, but in pencil by the side there is a note by Gye giving the reason why he could not bear to let it go to strangers. Among the pictures one is called "The Storming of Seringapatam," by Hayman: it does not sound inviting, but it possessed a special interest for the bankrupt owner. Then these follow: "80 vols. of the Gentleman's Magazine," bought in £7 17s. 6d.; and, lastly, with an added touch of feeling, " $2\frac{1}{2}$  dozen of fine claret, 2 dozen of fine hock." These were the articles saved from the general wreck.

At this time also it appears, that "the Director of Ceremonies," Mr. Simpson, a man well-known by sight to all who frequented the Gardens, must have died. Following close on the auction catalogue, in Mr. Evanion's collection, is a letter from young Mr. Simpson, addressed to Frederick Gye, Esq., 9, Lawn Place, South Lambeth. With the letter there went a cane, the identical cane used by the renowned master of ceremonies. I give one short extract: "There is no other person in the world to whom I would grant it. I send you the cane, it is precisely in the same condition as when last used," signed C. Simpson. Thus the Vauxhall Gardens died from lack of patronage: and I have

lingered over the details because there is an interest even in old auction catalogues when they reveal the human side of people whose names are familiar to us. A Mr. Thomas Foster bought the eleven acres of ground for the remainder of the lease for £22,000, and within a month all the moveables were dispersed. Among the items I notice one stating that no less than 400 punch bowls were sold—one of these is in my possession. Mr. Foster purposed to lay out the ground for building. But that was not to be yet.

REOPENING.—The Gardens were reopened for a short season in the next year, 1842, under the management of F. Gye, Esq., junr., afterwards lessee of Covent Garden Theatre. I notice that one of the sights this year was "Napoleon's Carriage," which has now found a permanent resting place at Madame

Tussaud's.

There is a blank in the history of the place until 1844, when I have come across a showy "Prospectus of the Royal South London Polytechnic Institution." This was to be the fate of the old Gardens; 2,000 shares of £25 were advertised in three classes. There was a plan whereby shareholders paid less or more according as they desired admission free once, twice, or three times a day. The managing director of this somewhat bold scheme was "Mr. Brion." But I cannot find that anyone ever subscribed a sixpence.

In the same year (1844) the Gardens again fitfully opened in the old style, the central attraction being "The Ioway Indians and their encampment," forestalling the exploits of Buffalo Bill

and his company.

In 1845 a Mr. Wardell became the lessee, and Mr. Gye was retained for the fireworks and illuminations. The chief feature of the season was the fearful rain that fell on every occasion when anything special was advertised here. "Punch" waxed facetious over it. In the number of that paper appearing September 20th, 1845, it stated that "Herschell and South at the Observatory are nonplussed: they cannot account for the continuous rainfall. At length Dr. South happened to see a bill of Vauxhall Gardens announcing the fact of their being open: and tearing down the poster with a wild shout of eureka, he drove to the Observatory." He was to publish a "report proving, from an average number of years, that a wet season and the opening of Vauxhall Gardens are necessary co-existents."

Sold by Auction.—The Gardens were again brought under the

hammer on July 24th, 1845: only £17,700 was offered, and the

place was bought in.

"Punch" again amuses himself at the expense of the Gardens. A picture is given of Punch sitting on a table interviewing Mr. Widdicombe, who had succeeded Mr. Simpson as director of ceremonies.

"" Punch's 'recipe for a comic singer."—" Take a white waist-coat, put a man into it, add a blue coat, garnish with white stock, flavour with brandy and water, stir with music, and dish up to some popular tune, when you will have an excellent Vauxhall comic singer." "Punch" adds: "On nearing the orchestra we find the band still wearing the old traditional cocked hats, which have travelled from pole to pole for the last hundred years. Some of them were, of course, too large, notably that of the double bass: whilst the flute could hardly keep his hat on from its being too small: and if Nature's band of wind instruments commenced playing some gentle airs the perplexed musician was obliged to remove his fingers from the stops of his flute to stop his hat, which would otherwise have executed a "capricious" movement. I quote a few lines of a poem entitled "The Hermit of Vauxhall."

(The poem gives an insight into the domestic working of the Gardens. At the top is a picture of a venerable figure in a cave being addressed by a countryman who is attracted by the sage aspect of the old recluse.)

Father, I cried, now if you please, Philosophy we'll talk; As the wind murmurs through the trees, Skirting the long dark walk.

My son, forbear, exclaimed the sage, Nor on me make a call: My life is but a pilgrimage, From Lambeth to Vauxhall.

At eve when shops their shutters shut, And toll the curfew bell: I quit my room in the New Cut, To-sit within this cell. A friendly ounce of Cheshire cheese, My landlady provides: Save what to give the public please, I've nothing, son, besides.

Father, your salary of course You must receive, I said: Your sitting here is not by force: How do you get your bread?

The sage replied, Alas! my son,
I light the lamps by day:
The hermit's work, at evening done,
Brings me no extra pay.

PERILOUS BALLOON DESCENT, JULY, 1850.—Mr. Green ascended from Vauxhall Gardens with Mr. Rush, of Elsenham Hall, Essex, for the express purpose of testing the improvements made in the newly-invented aneriod barometer. For this purpose it became necessary to attain a great elevation, such as at no time

can be effected without a very considerable sacrifice of gas and ballast. At an altitude of little more than three miles the gas occupies double the space as at the earth's surface. The aeronauts left the Gardens at 7.50 A.M., and having reached an altitude of nearly 20,000 feet, they found the temperature twelve degrees below freezing point. They lost no time in making the necessary experiments, and having been above the clouds for half-an-hour, they commenced a rapid descent until they got below the clouds. They then found themselves sailing in the direction of the Nore sands where were several vessels, from whom they hoped to get Mr. Green, therefore, opened the valve and the balloon struck the water about two miles north of Sheerness. The wind being fresh, they were drawn with rapidity through the water; and, judging the speed of the balloon to be too great for a vessel to overtake them, Mr. Green let go the grapnel, which by its action on the sandy bottom so checked their progress that a boat came off to their assistance. Shortly after they were joined by several boats sent from the "Fly," revenue cutter. Lieutenant Garland, and Mr. Rush and Mr. Green escaped on board a fishing smack. The violent oscillations of the balloon rendered it dangerous for any vessel to approach it. The commander and his crew at length poured a volley of musketry into it so as to enable the gas to escape at the perforations, and in a short time they were enabled to secure it.

The elevation attained on the voyage was calculated as follows:—Thermometer, 20 degs.; barometer, 14.50; height, 19.802 feet.

THE LAST OF THE GARDENS.—I have come at length to positively the last night of the Gardens. The Standard of July 28th, 1859, comments upon the contrast between the first and last nights here. The Gardens really date from the 17th century: but the first night of their glory was on June 7th, 1732. Frederick Prince of Wales was present and a large company all masked. A hundred of the Footguards kept the ground: no men in livery were permitted; and the company danced stately minuets. The Gardens outlived all their competitors—Ranelagh, Bagnigge Wells, The Folly, etc. But tastes change, and the fashionable world deserted this last resort also. Up to 1840 the Gardens opened every year: but the amusements steadily deteriorated: Handel gave place to comic songs; rope dancers and performing horses were introduced: once only in latter years did Vauxhall really flourish: it was when Grisi and the Opera

Company came here. At length the fatal step was taken, and Vauxhall was opened by daylight. Then all the enchantment vanished: "Vauxhall by Daylight," is crucified in one of the sketches by "Boz." In 1859 "the season" only ran for seven nights. The last being Monday, July 25th, when 15,000 persons came attracted by a bill as follows:—"Farewell to Vauxhall! Most positively the last night for ever! The last Dancing! The last Suppers! The last Punch!" Forty thousand additional lamps were promised. The reporter says that it is doubtful whether the bad and expensive suppers would ever be regretted: and as for the extra lamps on that night, they were doubtless all there, for the smell of oil was certainly 40,000 times stronger than on ordinary occasions. The crowd on the last evening contained a good many of those young "gentlemen" who like to walk six abreast, and yell and shout about lustily. Up to the time of the last dance everything was orderly. At length came "the final galop"; then a pause, and the band rose from their seats and the National Anthem was played. No sooner had the band finished, than a rush was made to one of the trees on the platform, and the British public broke off twigs as souvenirs of Vauxhall, but with the small branches lamps were also pulled down, at first by ones and twos, and then by dozens; and oil and glass fell on the platform amidst the cheers of the audience, until at length the police interfered. The lamps were now gradually expiring and the day was breaking. "Farewell for ever" had been done in illuminations, but now the "ever" had burnt itself out; and as the crowd retired, they saw baskets of empty beer bottles dotted about the walks, and a few couples still dancing to their own music. It really was the last of the Gardens. Soon all the effects were sold, and the builder was busy upon the spot. Few persons of the new generation, perhaps, know that the most famous Gardens of London, were once so close to Vauxhall Railway Station. Just a name such as "Tyers St.," indicates to the experienced observer, that he is on the site of the old pleasure grounds. I conclude this account of the Gardens with a story about Mr. Simpson, the extraordinary master of ceremonies. He was exceedingly polite to all members of the press. Writing once to the editor of the Times, Mr. Barnes, he ended with a postscript to this effect: "I am truly sorry, Sir, that you did not honor us with your company at the last juvenile fete, as I had given instructions for yourself and your much beloved family to be admitted to any number."

Mr. Barnes had no family, and used to delight in telling of Mr. Simpson's opinion of "the much beloved family to any number." I bid Farewell to Vauxhall.



#### CHAPTER XI.

## "THE SURREY GARDENS."

I do not consider that we have wandered too far away from our neighbourhood in discoursing of the Old Surrey Gardens. Alas! there must be some of our young people who have had no idea at all where they stood: for they are now a mass of small houses, and no gardens remain. I suppose the old site is as densely populated at this moment as the spot where Vauxhall Gardens once stood.

If you will walk down New Street, out of the Kennington Park Road, you will be in the old approach to the Gardens. The gateway into this famous resort was just at the bottom of New Street: and as you pause at the foot of that street and look towards Lorrimore Square, the 18 acres of ground in front of you, used once to be a great place of public resort. I have had the advantage lately of hearing accounts of the old Gardens at first hand. In the last house in New Street, on the left hand side (No. 85), Mr. Warwick lived, who managed the gardens from their commencement. The house then stood on the edge of the property—and there was nothing but a wide ditch full of water between Mr. Warwick's house and the grounds: and a plank formed an easy mode of private access.

Mr. Cross was the first proprietor of the Gardens. He had a menagerie of wild animals which were exhibited at Exeter Change, a spot near Waterloo Bridge. Some have said that he was formerly connected with the show of animals at the Tower: but Mr. Warwick assured me this was not the case. Cross looked for a site in South London and found this particular place, which was then a mass of market gardens. At the back there was the "Beehive Tavern" and grounds attached. The date of Cross' coming was August 13th, 1831, and of course be brought his

menagerie with him.

There was a lake of 3½-acres in the Gardens: and one of the attractions of the place used to be a scene skilfully worked up, at the end of the piece of water, which made a pretty view in the day time, and at night it was the centre of fireworks. In one year the scene was Naples and Vesuvius (very convenient for firework display); on another occasion it was Edinburgh, or

Napoleon crossing the Alps, or Shakespear's house copied as large as life. Of these displays I shall have more to say at another time.

There were no houses at first between the Gardens and Kennington Common, nothing but market gardens: then in due time Doddington Grove was built. It was then (so a former resident tells me) a most fashionable place for a house: carriages used to be constantly rolling in and out: and in the summer evenings it was quite a sight to see the inhabitants of the Grove promenading up and down before their residences. In New Street, in the year 1831, there were only two or three houses, and hence the name.

Further north there were streets. For instance, Penton Place was already there: and Mr. Warwick remembered in its Gardens almost the largest holly he had ever seen, and many mulberry trees. These latter may, I trust, still be there in some of the gardens. On the east side there was (as I have said) the "Beehive Tavern," but not the same building as stands now at the corner of Carter Street; and, attached to the Tavern, there was the cricket ground where the Montpelier Club played: this was in the days when the Oval was a market garden.

The lake in the Gardens was near where a hotel now stands: and I trust the foundations of the houses were not put down until the water had been well drained off.

Perhaps the most remarkable fact for temperence folk is that the proprietors of the Gardens never made application for a licence to sell drink. It was started and made a success without the sale of intoxicants. This is a note-worthy fact. I do not know what happened in later years, but during the time of Mr. Cross, up to 1844, no licence was ever applied for. The hours kept were early. At the latest, in the middle of summer, the Gardens closed at 10 p.m., and in the autumn at 7 p.m. Our Queen, when she was quite a little girl, came here with the Duchess of Kent, and was shown over the Gardens by Mr. Warwick.

"Yes, but (some of the younger folks will say) tell us some-

thing about the animals."

Well I have already mentioned that the first Giraffes ever seen in England were exhibited here. Mr. Cross or Mr. Warwick (I forget which) made a journey to Africa for the purpose: and the animals were brought over by an Arab boy, named "Fadlallah." Fadlallah was a very good looking fellow. He stayed here a long time, but afterwards became a

disreputable character. The great lion was called "Nero," and lived 20 years. His picture I have seen. were also some rare African antelopes called "Leucorixc;" and of course there were elephants. Two of them were to be taken one day to the Covent Garden Theatre to appear But they were most unruly upon the way. upon the stage. They broke down some iron railings just beyond Waterloo Bridge, near Somerset House: and the fracture is still to be seen at the spot! Then they went astray in Covent Garden Market and made it very unpleasant for the vegetables. At last they were produced upon the stage, when something frightened them (as was very probable) and they walked through some of the scenes and ended their theatrical careers by falling down through one of the trap doors. I asked Mr. Warwick if there were ever any accidents among the keepers of the beasts. He said that one of his assistants, named Stevens, once found the Bison out of temper and went into the cage to bring him into a better frame Unfortunately the Bison turned upon him, and, of mind. before assistance could be brought, gored him to death.

This incident ended fatally: Charles Dickens used to tell a story, quoted in Frith's Autobiography, that one day he heard a shouting at the Bear's den in Regent's Park: and running up to see what was the matter, he found that a man who had been giving a bun to the bear had had his fingers also enclosed. The bear held on tightly and took no notice of the showers of blows upon his head delivered by the keepers. At length the men, after a consultation, took the poor patient by the body and fairly pulled him away from the bear, leaving the bun and the tips of his fingers behind.

The central attraction in the evenings was the lake and the pictorial representations which were put up at great expense at one end of it. On one occasion it was "Napoleon crossing the Alps." In 1850 Punch amuses himself at the scene represented. It was something like this—"At the Surrey Gardens Napoleon crosses the Alps in a manner that is not mentioned either by Thiers, or Bourrienne, or Walter Scott. The manner in which he effects it is by sliding at a slow pace across a large sheet of water: and, as he is on horseback, the method is quite a new one. . . . Another curious circumstance is that Napoleon crossed the Alps amidst a brilliant display of fireworks. . . . We have our misgivings also whether he would allow his band to play "God save the Queen" at the conclusion of his journey."

Five years later, when the wild beasts were being sold by auction, Punch again makes fun out of the Gardens. "We have been rather startled by the announcement of the intended sale by auction of our old friends the animals, who for some years formed a feature, or rather a collection of very formidable features, at the Surrey Zoological Gardens. We do not quite understand how the respectable auctioneer, Mr. Stevens, proposes to knock down the elephant. It is all very well to talk of bringing the beasts to the hammer, but we tremble for the hand that attempts to bring the hyæna to the hammer. We shall be anxious to see the catalogue of the various lots, from the eligible elephant down to the monkeys, who would come under the head of miscellaneous. The Brahmin bulls will be sold at so much per head, or, perhaps, 'to be taken by the horns' for the convenience of the purchaser. We should not be surprised if, while the auctioneer were indicating an advance upon the tiger, the tiger were to make a sudden and unexpected advance on the audience."

But to return again to earlier days. Some of our inhabitants can doubtless remember the gigantic erection raised for Jullien's concerts. This was in 1845. Jullien determined to attract a large company by means of a colossal orchestra. There was an extensive promenade attached, and 12,000 persons were able to listen to the music at one time; and certainly the band must have been equal to the occasion, for it is said that among the instruments were 20 trumpets, 20 cornets, 20 trombones, 20 ophicleides, and 20 serpents. When they chose they made such a hideous din that it was an event not easily forgotten. At this time also the scene of Napoleon sliding gracefully across the Alps gave place to an enormous representation of Edinburgh. In 1846 the pictorial scene was a view of Vesuvius and of Naples; and we may be sure that the eruptions of the volcano were regular and continuous every evening. The mountain was literally on fire, and a bridge over the lake was an additional feature to heighten the effect.

On August 1st, 1846, the great thunderstorm, accompanied with hail, occurred. There have been many accounts of this strange visitation, and of the havoc committed by the hail. The house in which the wild beasts were kept suffered fearfully, and glass of the value of £200 was broken. In South London alone the glass that was destroyed was computed at £18,000. In the Surrey Gardens a lioness gave birth to a cub during the storm.

Soon after the storm a committee was formed to relieve the distress of the florists, who had, of course, been hit very hard by the storm. A fête was held on August 24th, 1846, in the Surrey Gardens for their benefit: and the prospectus setting forth the glories of the day ended with the magic words "Eruption at 9."

In 1847 there was put up over the lake a strange kind of bridge, the description of which sounds oddly enough. It was called "Remington's aerial bridge." It was made of deal, and was 84 feet long, in the form of an arch. There were no supports, and the actual structure was not more than one inch square in the centre. It was advertised as capable of bearing great weights, because it was made of a large number of pieces of wood glued together: and one day sixteen men, all carrying weights, were on it together, and on another occasion 1,000 people crossed it in the day.

Hard by there was a hermit's cave, which, the prospectus

said, "overwhelmes the visitor with gloomy awe."

But I must return to the animals once again. The giraffes used to be the centre of attraction, for very few up to that time had ever been seen alive. In 1827 one was received at Windsor and given to George IV. It soon however began to lose power, and in order to facilitate the rising of the animal a pulley was fitted in the top of its house, from whence a rope was passed round the body, and so the giraffe was lifted to its feet without using exertion. The first giraffes in a public exhibition were those in the Surrey Gardens. Mr. Warwick made a special excursion into Egypt to get them. They were caught when young some ten days' journey to the south of Sennaar. They were not more than six weeks old, and were fed by sucking milk out of a gourd through a piece of cloth. After a time they were removed in boats, and on the backs of camels, thirty days' journey to Cairo, where they were turned into a garden until a ship could be fitted for them. The lower deck of the ship was cut away so that a space of fifteen feet might be obtained in order to enable the creatures to stand up. They were thus safely brought to the Gardens. When at Alexandria it was not easy to induce these animals to walk down an inclined plane into the ship: as they hesitated it was arranged to bring a camel who should show them the way. This was done, and the giraffes followed in the wake of the camel without fear. It must have been a strange sight seeing these creatures at one time taking their exercise.





They were so strong that when they tried to gallop they would

drag five men along with them.

From Giraffes I turn to a reminiscence of Sims Reeves. In the great orchestra erected by Jullien there were many famous singers to be heard. In 1847, Jenny Lind was here: and at the same time there was a view on the lake of the siege of Gibraltar: These two attractions, the great singer and the firework display, were coupled together on the handbills, and the Gardens were advertised as "producing two of the greatest events of modern In July, 1859, Sims Reeves sang a song and was vociferously encored: for half an hour there were howls and yells from the audience, who insisted upon hearing the song again. But no Sims Reeves appeared. In the course of time the performance was continued; and then at length it came to the time for the great tenor to sing again. As soon as he appeared there was a storm of abuse: one part of the audience were determined he should not sing at all since he refused an encore upon the first occasion. But Sims Reeves was equally determined that he should sing: and after waiting some time he took a chair and sat down saying "I am too much of an Englishman to be beaten." In a short time he had all his audience with him except a very few who were at length carried out of the hall: and as they passed the singer he politely kissed his hand to them. After their ejection quiet was obtained and he sang "My Pretty Jane": there was no encore: but to the great delight of all, and to the amusement of a good many who sympathised with the determination of the singer, Sims Reeves came back of his own accord without being bidden; he sat down to the piano and accompanied himself while he gave them "The Bay of Biscay."

In August, 1856, doubtless some will remember that a great dinner was given here to the Guards upon their return from the Crimea. About 2000 men sat down to a banquet: and the presiding official was Sergeant Major Edwards, the oldest soldier

in the British Army.

The Accident to a Congregation.—In October, 1856, a very sad event took place in the Gardens. Mr. Spurgeon was then a young man, not more than 22. But his fame as a preacher was great, and enormous crowds came to hear his sermons. The chapel in which he had been accustomed to preach was far too small for the numbers who tried to gain admittance. Accordingly, he removed to Exeter Hall for some

time, and even then hundreds were turned away at the doors. He therefore cast about for some building large enough to contain all who wished to profit by his ministry: and he then hired the large orchestra in the Surrey Gardens for four Sundays at £15 a night. The building was oblong in shape, and had two or three galleries, one above the other. The windows were filled with plate-glass, and the building held about 12,000 people. Upon the Sunday evening in question, such enormous crowds cameto hear Mr. Spurgeon that the whole of this vast space was filled, and even then there were some 1,000 people who were excluded. The regular members of the congregation had been admitted by private doors before the mass of people gained a footing; and, unfortunately, it appears that some one gave orders that certain side doors should be locked in order that there might be less: temptation to stroll off and spend the evening in the grounds. There were police at the doors, and everything else was done to ensure order and safety. Mr. Spurgeon had given out a hymn, and had afterwards read a chapter of the Bible. Then he had hardly begun to pray when an alarm of danger was given. Some say it was a cry of "Fire" which proceeded from a person in the uppermost gallery: others stated that they heard the words, "the roof, the roof," from some one in the basement, and that they heard a bell ring. At all events, the whole of this. enormous concourse rose up in terror and made for the various doors, and at once the building was a scene of indescribable confusion. From the platform the preacher and his friends roared out that there was no danger; but there was a panic, and the shrieks of women were heard above all other sounds. One poor woman, in an agony of terror, threw herself out of a window in the galleries, alighted upon the portico, and jumped again to the ground, a distance of some twenty feet, and of course injured herself very seriously. Perhaps the worst consequences however were, as usual, at the doors, where people were thrown down and trampled to death. The preacher did all that man could do: he found it impossible to quell the uproar by ordinary means; and, therefore, bethought himself of getting the choir to start a hymn; hoping that the sight of persons quietly singing might induce others to sit quiet. But it was of no use, and men began jumping down from the galleries: this became all the moregeneral, because the banister of the staircase, leading from the north gallery, gave way, and people were afraid of being pushed off the steps into the space below. While the singing on the-

platform was proceeding, sounds of a different character were also heard, for doors, windows, chairs, and benches were being These sounds increased the panic, for broken on every side. it made some believe that there was really a fire. All the terrible consequences occurred, we are told, in the first five or In one place persons were found with their heads ten minutes. protruding through broken panes of glass. They had pushed their heads through in order to see if there were any chance of jumping down: but finding the height very great, they had changed their minds: it was more difficult, however, to draw their heads back again; and so they were left in that ridiculous position. To show what panic will make a man do, it was stated that a man was seen to jump right through the thick plate glass door at the south-east entrance. Of course people came running from all parts of the gardens when they heard the cries: some also walked into the lake and stood there as being a safe spot. There was at the time a panoramic view of Constantinople at the other end of the lake. In the midst of this scene some gentlemen appeared on the balcony, on the top story of the building, and shouted to the police to look sharp after the pickpockets, adding that it was some of them who had raised the cry of alarm. At this time some thousands had returned to the hall upon finding that there was nothing to be afraid of; and Mr. Spurgeon began his sermon, proceeding to ask them whether it was their conscience, the fear of what would follow upon sudden death, which had terrified them so much. As he was preaching to them, a second alarm was given, and another rush was made, but not to the same extent as the first. It was clear, however, that those who were inside were ill at ease, and no wonder: there were persons crying out all around, because of their wounds, and a certain number, not many, had been taken up dead. The congregation then left the hall, and a collection was made in aid of the sufferers, amounting to £8. It may easily be imagined what a shock this occurrence must have given Mr. Spurgeon. It was no fault of his own; it was nothing but one of those strange panics which are so dreadful when a large concourse of people is collected in one building. There was an inquest of course, and a verdict of "Accidental death" was returned. said they were thoroughly satisfied with the soundness of the structure of the Surrey Hall, but that the staircases were too steep.

The last years of the Gardens.—The last years of all such

gardens can be described in the same kind of terms. One manager after another takes them and tries to make them pay, and fails. In 1873 a Mr. Strange re-opened them: on certain days they were crowded, as for instance when "the flight of 1,000 pigeons" was announced under the auspices of a Belgian society. And a very pretty sight it must have been when this large number of birds were launched, as the papers say, "into their native element," and at once proceeded to take their way back to their distant homes, hundreds of miles away on the other side of the Channel. It was noted on this occasion that the pigeons did not circle round and round first, as they generally do, before they can make up their minds where their homes are.

Then in 1875 the Gardens have again changed their proprietor, and Messrs. Poole and Stacey bid for the approbation of the public. A panorama of "Old London before the Fire" springs up beyond the lake. Ten thousand variegated lamps sparkle again. Captain Boyton rushed into the waves of the lake and performed wonders, etc., etc.

Such short periods of returning life were interspersed by records in the Court of Bankruptcy. In 1857 Mr. Tyler's affairs were wound up. On this occasion the person who met with general sympathy was M. Jullien. No one ever accused him of dishonesty, and in open Court he stated then how hard he had felt it that he could not get money from the receipts to pay his band, many of the members only getting £2 a week, that he himself and his family were living upon £2 a week also. Jullien's career had been a remarkable one. Born in France in 1812, he soon exhibited all the restlessness of spirit for which he was afterwards famed. In 1834 he quitted the musical profession and became a sailor in the French Navy. Dissatisfied with the sea, he then became a soldier, and entered the ranks as a soldier. Very soon afterwards he purchased his discharge, and took to music again. I believe he was the first who played upon an instrument called "the clarichord" in the orchestra. And it was he who introduced the custom of holding monster concerts, which were made lucrative by the number of people who attended them in consequence of a shilling entrance.

In 1847, Jullien brought out a young tenor named Sims Reeves, and though in operas Jullien did not succeed, he always spoke gratefully of the sympathy and generosity displayed in moments

of special difficulty by Mr. Sims Reeves.

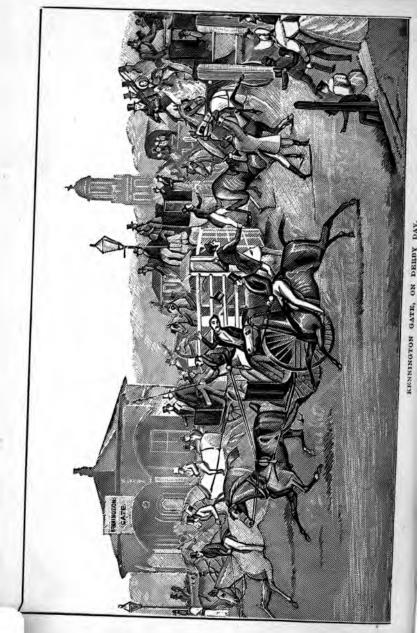
Poor Jullien lost all his property in a fire at Covent Garden about 1854; and then he came to the Surrey Gardens, where he again lost money. Here are his words, somewhat quaint and involved, spoken at a meeting of creditors in 1857:- "Since these Gardens were open, I never received anything for my salary, although my nominal salary was very great: but I was working very hard. The only part they accept of my proposition was the musical festival. I came back to my home satisfied that day, and say, 'They begin to take my advice.' I said the expenses will not be more than £1,200, and they will take £3,000 or £4,000. I engaged all the artistes and everybody for this festival, and I asked the committee to vote me £1,200, and I never passed that sum. The receipts came to a little more than I said, £3,400, and left a clear profit to the company of £1,000. The receipts were taken away every night, and the artistes who made the money come were not paid. All the money disappeared some how. I lose £2,000 by my shares, and £2,000 for my salary, a great deal of which I paid for repairs and fittings, and money which I advanced to the artistes, and I took a house in the neighbourhood, that I might be near. All these things cost me a loss of £6,000 altogether, and twelve months hard work. for I never worked so hard in my life." So much for the success of the old Surrey Gardens in 1857.

Jullien announced, in 1858, that he would soon commence a "Universal Musical Tour through the Capitals of Europe, America, Australia, the Colonies, and the Civilised Towns of Asia and Africa." This most imposing programme he never carried out. for he died in 1860.

From the story of bankruptoies I pass to one of the last performances in these Gardens, not to recount it for its intrinsic value but to show the gradual fall in respectability. In March, 1878, it was announced that a fight for £100 would take place in the Theatre between Messrs. Rooke and Harrington. Thirty shillings was the price charged for a seat. The company was low in the extreme, though a number of the nobility were advertised as having paid their money. At length some 800 persons were assembled (did they all pay 30/-?). Two hours after the appointed time Rooke and Harrington made their appearance: at the same moment a huge vessel was held up as the "silver cup, value £100." There was a general laugh at this among the initiated: for they recognised the pot which used to contain cold water at the chief refreshment bar in the old

days of the Surrey Gardens. At that time this particular vessel used to be of pewter: and even the sand paper which had been used on this occasion to brighten it up hardly gave the impression of silver. I need not describe the scene that followed: the audience, so a paper says, "shrieked and danced in a way unknown, except under the combined influence of betting, drink, ignorance, brutality, and a knowledge that all laws of decency and of order are for the time abrogated." It was time that the old Surrey Gardens should go the way of all other such places of amusement. Their day is past: the ventures at South Kensington under the names of Fisheries, Healtheries, etc., have been, it is needless to say, an immense boon and a very much more elevating place of resort.





## CHAPTER XII.

## "S. MARK'S CHURCH."

The whole district of S. Mark's has been covered with houses during the present century. A map of 1753 seems to show that at that date there was not a single house in the parish. length Lambeth became a populous place. In 1815—the year of the battle of Waterloo—a resolution was passed in the House of Commons "That it would be necessary and becoming to make some great demonstration of thankfulness to Almighty God for the return of peace, by promoting the building of churches." To Dr. Yates, sometime Chaplain of Chelsea Hospital, is accorded the credit of having been instrumental in awakening, at this time, an interest in the spiritual wants of the metropolis by a pamphlet in the form of a letter addressed to the Premier, Lord Liverpool, entitled, "The Church in Danger." He formed an estimate, by which he proved that 946,000 persons were without · adequate provision of the means of grace in London. would mean in those days about half London. followed up his first pamphlet by another, called "The Basis of the National Welfare," and in 1818, on the motion of Lord Liverpool, after a memorial had been presented by Lord Kenyon, Sir Thomas Aeland, Mr. J. Bowdler, Mr. Cotton, and others, a grant was made by Parliament of one million pounds sterling for the building of churches in London, and in the great provincial towns, and commissioners were appointed to manage the expenditure. Six years later Parliament added £500,000 more to the million. (It may be mentioned that such grants are almost unknown. No grant has been made since that date, and not many before it. The churches of the Church of England, and all its property have been given almost without exception by private individuals). It is likely that this money was not very wisely expended. Several large and costly churches were built in London, but they were not endowed; and they became great pew-rented churches, fit for the rich who could support the clergyman and pay large subscriptions, but of little service for many years to the working classes. Part of the million pounds, given in 1818, was expended in building the four churches, so like each other in outward appearance—S. Matthew, Brixton; S. Mark, Kennington; S. Luke, Norwood; and S.

John, Waterloo Road. On July 1st, 1822, the Archbishop of Canterbury laid the foundation stone of S. Mark, Kennington, and several parishioners now living have told me that they were present on the occasion. An hour or two before this ceremony took place the Archbishop had laid the foundation stone of S. Matthew, Brixton. And on June 30th, 1824, the building being in a sufficiently forward condition, S. Mark's was consecrated by the Bishop of Winchester. On the succeeding Sunday it was opened for divine service by the Rev. W. Otter, the first incumbent. He afterwards became Bishop of Chichester. The contract for the building was £15,274, the architect being Mr. Roper.

The Church is described in "Allen's Lambeth" as having a Greek Doric portico: the body of the Church is octangular, and the historian says that the difference in style between the body of the Church and the portico must strike every observer. He says that the contrast "appears to the architectural spectator a combination of little better character than that strange masonic jumble which the late James Wyatt imposed on the world as

Gothic architecture."

The point is that the roof rises to a ridge, and to this ridge is attached a Greek portico. He adds that the east front is more church-like than the portico.

Perhaps some of my readers will smile at the remark of my author when he calls the interior light and airy. I fear that sometimes of an evening it is a very hot air that is present.

In old days, at the east end, there were "four slabs of white marble, with the decalogue, creed, and paternoster inscribed upon them, and a dove and glory in stained glass adorned the

upper part."

The organ was at the west end in the gallery: and upon each side sat the school children. Sometimes an anthem was sung from the gallery by some of the children; and when Mrs. Phipps, the respected sextoness, was a little girl she sang solos from that gallery as being the girl who had the best voice in the Oval Girls' School.

Some of us will be astonished to hear how the schools entered the gallery. They did not ascend the present gallery stairs: that was reserved for the great folks, and there were many grand folks then who attended the Church. People waited for years to get a seat, and some malicious people called the Church "Butterfly Hall," because of the wonderful dresses

that were to be seen there. The school children went up the little winding stair which is reached by the doors in the middle porch; these steps are very narrow and dark, yet up these the schools ascended Sunday by Sunday until they reached a door in the west gallery wall, which is now blocked up: through this they emerged into their places on each side of the organ. The old pulpit "consisted of a square frame of fluted Doric columns supporting an octangular story." This is the same as exists at present, and it was a present from Old Lambeth Church. It is about 200 years old. Then from the centre of the ceiling depended in old days a large bronze lamp of an antique design, suspended by chains; this of course is no longer there.

There was a reading desk on the north side of the aisle with a clerk's desk attached: the pulpit was upon the south side. And I suppose that practically the interior of the Church was anchanged till about the year 1876, when the late Archdeacon Fisher restored it so thoroughly and so well. There is one curious fact connected with the Church-yard. The first grave was that of "Margaret, wife of Stephen Staff, died March 1, 1825, aged 65 years." This grave was dug north and south. As is generally known graves are always placed east and west, and it was strange that the first grave here should be made contrary to the usual custom. An interment took place in this grave in 1853, and then the grave was fresh dug and the error remedied.

Upon the day when the Church was consecrated, the Archbishop (Manners Sutton) presented the five Communion vessels, made of silver-gilt, which are still in use. We have no older plate, of course, because we did not exist before 1824. But I regret to say that the negligence and indifference of some of the Clergy in past days with regard to their old Church plate has been something appalling. Many of them never took any trouble to find out the date of their Communion plate: and constantly it has happened that without asking leave of any one, they have been known to sell the old plate, which has often been of real historic interest, in order to buy that which seems to them better because more modern in shape. Those who undertand old silver and gold vessels are always looking out for Communion plate which dates back to a time before the Reformation. Of course a great deal of it was destroyed in the reigns of Queen Elizabeth and in Puritan times. The following is vouched for by a friend, who is learned in old plate, as a true story:—A gentleman who collected plate was in the habit of going to the country clergy and pointing out to them that their Communian plate was old and ugly and battered. How much better it would be, he said, if they would sell it to him and, with the money they received, buy finer and more modern vessels. He apparently found no difficulty in persuading a good many to acquiesce with his suggestion. At all events, one day he gave a dinner party to a large party of gentlemen, and before each of them on the table, there stood a chalice, which dated from before the Reformation, ont of which to drink their wine! The host called that dinner "Belshazzar's Feast." The friend who told me this also said that when he was engaged in making an inventory for a certain Diocese of Church plate, he often received an answer from a clergyman that there was no need to allude to the Communion vessels in his Church, because they were so old and battered. Such a response made it necessary to make an expedition at once to the Church: and he often found that the so-called battered and worthless plate was most valuable and rare, and dated back some 300 years. All that was needed was that it should be sent to the goldsmith to have the dents taken out and a little care expended upon it. There is good reason—every one will allow that in every Diocese a most careful inventory should be made of all Church property, with the dates of their age mentioned. Besides the Communion vessels in our Church which date back to 1824, there are two very fine pairs of brass candlesticks, which were also given at the same time. They telescope into short candlesticks, and can be lengthened into double their length. They stand at present upon the mantelpiece in the Vestry.

A SUNDAY IN THE CHURCH SIXTY YEARS AGO.—I will try and put together the events of a Sunday's services just after the Church was consecrated, for the edification of my readers. As far as I can understand there was never any service before 11 a.m.: up to that hour the Church was not opened. A few minutes before 11, the children from the Oval Schools trooped into the porch and up the winding staircase towards the belfry; and then through their own door, high up in the wall of the Church, into the gallery, and took their seats on each side of the organ. The boys and girls were dressed in what is technically called "clothing"; that is to say, in uniform. The boys were brown jackets and waistcoats, a black tie and a regulation cap; their other garments were according to the taste of their parents. The girls wore white tippets, and sometimes they wore white

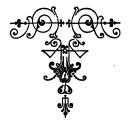
caps. The clothes were kept in the school, and were sent home by the children on Saturdays: they were worn on Sunday and returned on Monday to the school. Twelve boys and twelve girls formed the choir of the Church, there were no men's voices. There was always what is called "A Charity Sermon" for the schools every year, when large sums were given. On Sunday, November 11th, 1832, the sum of £56 was collected. On these occasions the schools were brought downstairs and stood under the gallery at the west end. The clerk gave out the hymn and then added, "The hymn will be sung by the children alone." This was meant to be a spur to the congregation when they passed the plate at the doors. The collection from the general congregation was made always at the doors, the Churchwardens and other officials holding the plates. Sometimes, again, an anthem was sung from the gallery by the girl or boy possessed of the best voice—when, for instance, the Bishop came to the Church. It was on such occasions that Mrs. Phipps, now many years ago, distinguished herself. We will suppose now that the hour for service has struck. The Church would be filled with a fashionable congregation; for at that time there was a very great demand for rented pews. Persons had to wait a year very often before they could obtain a seat, and the gross rental in 1833 was £488 from the ground floor, and £356 from the galleries—making a total of about £845. Of this, however, not more than £550 could be given to the Vicar. The first Organist was Mr. Richard Griffiths: as soon as he began to play the voluntary there would issue from the Vestry the Beadle with his beadle's coat, and in his hand a staff with a silver top (he also had a magnificent hat with a gold hat band), behind him walked the Sexton (he ought to have carried a spade!) behind him the Clerk, in his gown, and then the Clergy and Churchwardens. They made for "the three decker," which stood in the middle of the Church, about where the Lectern now stands. There was no regular chancel: but some of the best seats were north and south of the Church facing inwards, behind the erection I have mentioned. The most important of these pews was for the Churchwardens, with red curtains round it. The Clerk entered the lowermost tier of the central edifice, the Curate went into the first floor, and the attics were left for the Vicar when the time for the sermon came. Meanwhile the Vicar went into the seats by the Lord's Table. The usual service followed, but there was no collection except about once a quarter. And again, sometimes, there was an offertory from the communicants, when the bulk of the people had departed.

There was no afternoon service, but Holy Baptism was administered at 3 P.M. There was no font for many years: the children were baptised at a stone basin, which was put upon the Lord's Table: after a time this basin was broken, and then an ordinary basin was used. The rails round the Lord's Table were circular; and along the rails during the morning service benches were put: here the children from the Chapel Street Schools Then at 6.30 P.M., the same hour as at present, the evening service was held. If you had entered the Church early you could have seen the clerk pull down the large candelabra hanging from the ceiling, with the help of a long iron hook. There were fourteen lights here, and, of course oil was used. It was sperm oil, bought at Alderman Farebrother's shop at Stockwell Green, along with the necessary candles. But before the lamps were lighted the oil had to be taken down to the furnace in the vaults, there to be melted, before it could be used! Then after the lamps were lighted they were drawn up to about the level of the gallery. Under the galleries and in the galleries, wax candles were placed in glasses. After the service these candles were blown out with a pair of specially long bellows, kept for the purpose.

At certain times of the year, such as during Lent, the Vicar ordered six boys and six girls to be brought downstairs: these, dressed in their "clothing," were made to stand up on the free seats nearest the pulpit (they are the same seats still), and then the Vicar, Dr. Otter (afterwards Bishop of Chichester), put them through their Catechism, and asked them questions upon it for the benefit of the congregation. I have said that the collections from the whole congregation were not frequent. find that a summary of "Charity Sermons" in 1832, mentions only four in the year. March 21, District Visiting Society, £76 14s. 10d. May 27th, Oval Schools, (no amount given). November 11th, Oval Schools, morning, £41; evening, £14 7s. 0d. and December 23rd, National Society-"The King's Letter"-£31. I do not at this moment understand the last entry. My readers will be interested to hear that the large collection for the District Visiting Society, on March 21st, 1832, was, upon the occasion of "the Public Fast," ordered to be observed throughout the country. It was because of an outbreak of cholera.

After the evening service on Sunday, the Church was sometimes

not opened again for any purpose till Wednesday. Persons desiring relief from the Clergy went to the Clergyman's house. There was, however, much stir in the Church-yard. There were many funerals. Mr. Johnson was the first grave-digger. One of the first funerals in the vaults of the Church was that of Miss Hill on March 15th, 1830. Her tablet is in the Church on the north side. She lived in Harleyford Place: the house is now called 270, Kennington Park Road. Six boys went in procession from the house dressed in their "clothing." The deceased lady desired that the pillow for her head might be a Bible. And her request was complied with. There was first a service in the Church and then again in the vaults which were all lit up with candles for the occasion.





ST. MARK'S CHURCH, KENNINGTON.

### CHAPTER XIII.

# THE OLD OFFICIALS, AND SOME CURIOUS INCIDENTS 60 YEARS AGO.

On March 22nd, 1825, an official document appointed a Select Vestry of 20 gentlemen to manage the concerns of the parish. It must be remembered that though the Church had been built there were many points still to be settled; and above all Church rates had to be levied.

I append here the 20 names of the first Vestry for they will bring back many a memory to the older inhabitants. The Select Vestry was composed of Dr. D'Oyley, Rector of Lambeth (and his successors), the Rev. William Otter, the first incumbent, and Messrs. William Puckle, Thomas James, Charles Francis, John Fentiman, Robert Hedger, Joseph Harrison, James Lush, Thomas Borrodaile, Randle Jackson, Richard Cannon, Robert Pitcher, Edward Thornton, John Burges, Richard Noble, William Wood, John Field, Robert Forest, William Whitton, William Peppercorn, Henry Petrie, Robert Dunlop, Stanger Leathes, William Reeves, Edward Smith.

We are still reaping the benefit of the liberality of some of these gentlemen.

Mr. Noble left a bequest to the Parish for the poor. The interest of the money is put into the Christmas offertory for the District Visiting Society, and, with the reduced interest, amounts to about £14 2s. Od. Mr. Forest endowed the Oval Schools with the sum of £60 a year; and it is just this additional sum which enables us to carry on the Schools without making them burdensome to the Congregation.

Among the first duties these 20 gentlemen undertook were the regulation of the duties of the Clerk and Sexton; and these regulations are practically still in force. They also appointed the five pew openers, who were—Douglas, Wilkins, Wallace, Walton. James.

They then proceeded to elect an Organist. Three gentlemen were finally selected, and from among them Mr. Griffiths was chosen by a large majority. Mr. Boardman tells me that Mr. Griffiths lived in a house near the Oval Schools; it was then a very lonely spot, so much so that the Organist was in the habit

of firing off his gun every night before he went to bed to warn burglars that he was still awake! (I imagine, however, that a further construction might be put upon the explosion by an enterprising thief, he might conclude that "Mr. Griffiths is now going to sleep.")

I am told this gentleman filled his post in the Church for many years, but that at length the Vicar, Mr. Lane, thought that it was not right to have, as a Church Organist, one who held an appointment in a theatre during the week; and then

Mr. Griffiths resigned his post.

I notice also that about this time, at the first appointment of the Vestry "a Sunday Beadle" was appointed. William Baker was the first Sunday Beadle, and his pay was 5s. per Sunday, and Christmas day and Good Friday were counted as Sundays. William Baker the Sunday Beadle, was the father of Mr. Baker who died a year or two ago, and was a celebrated cricketer in the Montpelier Club. The costume of the Sunday Beadle must certainly have been worth seeing. I noticed that in the early accounts the sum of £1 16s. 0d. is paid for the Beadle's hat; and his new great coat cost £9 9s. 0d.

As we are upon the subject of early accounts I will quote some other items. Apparently it was the business of the Clerk "to instruct the children of the Schools in Psalmody"; and for this duty he obtained the fee of £10 annually.

In 1828 the Churchwardens hired "a glass Coach" to go to the Visitation; this cost £1 16s. 6d.; and the Coachman's dinner

and Turnpikes cost 4s. 3d. more.

In those early days pony chaises annoyed the worshippers. On December 11th, 1828, William Brewer, constable, is paid £1 6s. 0d. "for endeavouring to remove pony chaises." The phrase is not an encouraging one. It would appear that he attempted what he could not succeed in accomplishing.

Perhaps the most important duty of the select Vestry was striking "the Church Rate." These are now things of the past, but in those early days this rate produced a large sum. One old parishioner tells me that there were five Church rates. That in his memory there was the old Church rate (2d.), the new Church rate (4d.), the Church Building rate (4d.), the District Church rate (4d.), and the Burial Ground rate (2d.). This was indeed a heavy tax. In 1827 the rate was calculated to bring in £723, but of this only £483 was collected.

The first Churchwardens were Mr. R. Noble and Mr. E.

Thornton (it was this Mr. Noble that has left the bequest referred to above). In the next year they were Mr. Reeves and Mr. Cannon; and in the following year they are Messrs. John Burges and W. Shadbolt.

In those days the house, which is now the Vicarage, was a kind of cottage, considerably prettier outside than it is now, but much smaller. It was inhabited by a Mr. Procter. The Oval was a lonely place, and not many persons passed that way. On one occasion, when Mr. Hart, the Verger, was a boy he had taken a nest of young birds out of the garden of Mr. Procter's house: at the gate he was stopped by the proprietor who asked him to take a message to Mr. Burnett's at Vauxhall. He put the nest and the young birds down on the pathway and took the message; when he returned the nest and its inmates were there as before, no one had passed that way in the mean time. Next to Mr. Procter's house there came the present white house, Mr. Copland's, and beyond that were the gates of Mr. Fentiman's house. It was a very fine mansion, with a piece of ornamental water; and the property extended back to the present Fentiman Road. Near the present Oval Baths there lived a very odd woman. She admitted no one into her house, which was supposed to be in a very dirty condition.

The Oval Schools were built in 1824. The first master of the Boys' School was Mr. Hitchen; the girl's mistress was Miss

Marchant, and her sister. Ann Marchant.

It may be interesting to parishioners to know that of late we have collected the old Church books (with the help of Mr. Boardman and Mr. Hart), and have carefully put them away as relics. We have the old large folio Bible from "the three decker," the original large Prayer Book, and the first Hymn book that was used. A hundred years hence these will be great curiosities.

The Church's Annals.—I mentioned the pony chaises which were an annoyance to the congregation. They were called "go-carts," and were kept by a Mrs. Susan Jarvis. The Parish Clerk was sent on October 29th, 1828, to the Horns, where the Manor Court sat, "to represent a nuisance which existed near the Church, by a person named Susan Jarvis, living in a hut by the Pound, by letting out pony carts on Sundays, insulting persons as they passed, and by suffering disorderly conduct in her cottage." Mr. Slade, well known in those days, said, however, that he knew Mrs. Jarvis well, and that she was a

poor and very industrious woman, and that he believed the charge against her to be untrue. Mrs. Jarvis' hut stood upon the plot of ground (still unoccupied) on the south corner of the Camberwell New Road, facing the Church-yard, and the Pound stood just across the road, at what is now the entrance to the Ugly stories were told of people who lived here, as being "body snatchers" for medical purposes. I fear that Mrs. Jarvis' three sons were always at this trade. It was harder then than now to get bodies for dissection, indeed, I find that on November 29th, 1829, a select Vestry meeting was called "for special purposes." And this special purpose was to inform the meeting "that the Church-yard had recently been disturbed, and that a dead body had been taken therefrom and traced to S. Bartholomew's Hospital, but by the vigilance of Mr. James was afterwards recovered and re-interred on the same day," and then it was resolved that the Churchwardens "be empowered to cause gas lights to be placed in the Church-yard in order to prevent a recurrence if possible." There are not many persons who would know that the present gas lamps owe their origin to an attempt to stop body-snatching, and not for the purpose of giving light to those who come to worship; yet such is the case.

The Licensed Victuallers' School. — The connection between this school and our Church is of long standing. In May, 1829, the trustees of the school approached the Vestry in order to have special seats erected for the children, and it was then, I believe, that those raised seats were put up where they still sit. The trustees of the school offered to put up the seats at their own expense, but would not be responsible for taking them down. It was resolved finally that upon the payment of £56 by the Licensed Victuallers' School, the Churchwardens should put up the required seats, but that they should still be considered as free seats and be in the absolute charge of the Churchwardens. This is the history of the seats at the back of the Church under the gallery.

District Visiting Society.—Apparently in the days when the Church was built this was a rich neighbourhood, and very few poor people resided in Kennington. For instance, even up to 1846 there were only a very few houses between our Church and where the Brixton Police Station now stands. And again the grounds of Fentiman House extended from Fentiman Road to the Oval; and all the Streets now built there did not exist then; there were only some brick fields. We are not surprised therefore to

find that there was no fund called the District Visiting Society's Fund, and on February 21st, 1831, the Select Vestry met "for the purpose of receiving a Report of a Society now in progress for visiting and bettering the condition of the poor of Kennington." I suppose that soon after this some such Society was started, and it still continues its beneficient course.

The Organ.—In the same year, in 1831, it was determined that Mr. Gray, the Organ Builder, should take away the Church Organ, as it was not adequate for the purposes of worship, and should put up a new and superior instrument in its place. It was also resolved that the new organ should not be paid for out of the Church Rate but by the donations of the congregation. This was accordingly done, and as far as I can tell, a great part of our present organ dates from 1831, but not from 1824.

Abolition of the Church Rate.—The year 1832 was the year of the Reformed Parliament, and it was just at this time that the levying of the old Church Rate was found to be an impossibility, nor are we surprised. This was an era in the history of our Church. The first step to take was to see what expenses could be cut off. There was a clerk to the Select Vestry—Mr. Watmore—was he needed? The answer was No; and therefore in this year he ceased to hold office, and a gentleman did the work as Honorary Secretary. (The immediate consequence was that the minutes, which up to this time were beautifully kept and were written in a very clear hand, ceased to be equally legible). The Churchwardens, upon whom fell the chief responsibility of carrying the Church through this period of difficulty, were Messrs. Forest and Redhead. Their services were gratefully appreciated, and a Testimonial, setting forth their exertions, on vellum, was presented to these gentlemen and a copy ordered to be hung up in the Vestry, where it can still be seen by those who care about it. The Clergy and Choir have often looked upon the article in question, but it can hardly have suggested to them a very stirring time in our Church's history—the Reform Bill—the abolition of the Church Rate, and the obtaining of money by other means to carry on Divine Worship.

After the Vestry Clerk had been abolished, another step in the way of economy was effected. Up to this year the surplus of the pew rents (the Vicar's stipend being £550) was put into a fund for the purchase of a glebe house. But it was now felt that the surplus pew rents must be used for paying church expenses. Accordingly the leave of Dr. D'Oyley was asked (the Rector of

Lambeth) and also of the Bishop. Permission being given, it was from pew rents that expenses were met, as the Church Rate was gone. But again another step became necessary. The pew rents had produced about £712. It was now determined to reconsider the prices paid for seats: and by a process of readjustment the income from this source was increased from £712 to £856.

There was also another change in this eventful year. The Rev. W. Otter left the Parish and the Rev. Charlton Lane took his place, and one of the first changes made in the Incumbency of Mr. Lane was to change the position of the Pulpit and of the Reading Desk. I fancy that up to this time there had been one central "three decker" in the middle, but that now, in 1833, there were two separate erections: one being the place from which prayers were read, and the other the pulpit.

A Vault for the Vicar.—On March 16th, 1835, the Rev. Dr. D'Oyley, Rector of Lambeth, wrote that to him it seemed perfectly right and consistent with custom that the Minister of Kennington Church should have a vault appropriated to himself, and that this should be arranged by the Churchwardens either under the Church or in the Churchyard. Finally, on April

22nd a vault was selected by the Rev. Charlton Lane as being

the place of burial for the Vicar for the time being.

Appointment of Church Officials.—I notice that for many years it was the custom to re-nominate all Church officials and that they held office for a year. This has not been the rule at the Easter Vestry for a long time now. Again as early as some 40 years ago a legal opinion was taken as to the right authority to appoint a Sexton. The barrister wrote that if the Sexton is merely the grave digger the appointment is with the Minister, where he is a mere Beadle and not the grave digger it lies with the Churchwardens. And if his office partakes of both characters then it is best for the Minister and Churchwardens to nominate him. In any case it does not lie with the Parishioners or with the Vestry.

The office of Sexton was an important one in earlier days. His income was £100 a year, and he had valuable property in his possession. For instance I see that in May, 1835, the Sexton was required to give security to the Churchwardens to the amount of £100 for the safe custody of the Church plate and other articles in his care. The Sexton in this case was Thomas

Wiggins.

Sacred Concert in the Church.—It is not legal now to have a regular Concert in our Churches; and we are all glad of it. It is not right to charge for admission to the Church for any purpose. But this rule (if it held good in 1835) was certainly broken fifty years ago. The Vestry received a letter from Mr. Cannon stating that he had advanced a large sum of money for the new organ to Mr. Gray, and had not yet been repaid. He also suggested that the Bishop's permission be asked to give a Sacred Concert in the Church. This took place on June 10th, 1835, and the items may prove interesting. Tickets were sold for the Church at 2s. 6d. each, 725 of these produced £90 12s. 6d., 299 at 3s. and 218 at 6d. were also sold, making a total of £140 18s. 6d. altogether. But the expenses were very heavy. Seven performers received £40 19s., printing £18 15s., refreshments £2 19s. &c., total £65.

Church Finances.—It appears, that at Easter when the accounts are always presented, there had never been a balance upon the right side before 1836. This is not strange, for though there were large receipts, there must have been many expenses in making up deficiencies which had not been thought of when the Church was built In 1836 the balance in the hands of the Churchwardens was £544 5s. 6d., and this was carried forward for the

next year's expenses.

These large balances were finally spent in purchasing a "Glebe House," the present Vicarage. The balance in the Wardens' hands went on increasing. In 1838 it was £783.

I have alluded to expenses connected with Church building. They consisted of items such as these:—In 1835 a sum of £210 was spent in repairing the exterior of the Church. This is somewhat surprising after only 11 years; at all events the work was at length well done, for we have to go a very long way back to discover (in our days) any expenditure on the actual fabric of the Church. It seems to have been so substantially built as to defy all the ravages of wind and weather. In the same year it was agreed to erect iron railings by the steps leading to the side doors of the Church near the West end. It had been found dangerous to have no such railings. Those railings that are there now are therefore fifty-four years old.

Church Insurance.—It may be of interest to some to know that the sum for which the Church is insured has advanced very much. In 1837 it was raised to £10,000. It is now altogether £16,000. This is because the organ is a great deal more valuable, and the amount of work put into the Church at the

time of its restoration was very great.

Picture of Lambeth Church.—There is a picture of the old Church hanging in the Vestry, and it appears that it was given to the Church by William Rogers, Esq., in 1837. It has therefore hung there for more than 50 years.

In the next year (1838) a well-known man died, Mr. Fentiman. In due time his house also disappeared, but his name will remain for hundreds of years in consequence of the street called after him.

Burial Fees.—In 1838 a curious dispute arose between Mr. Briant, of the Horns, and the Vestry. The rule of the Church was that any one who died outside the Parish was charged a double fee, as being a stranger and having no right to interment except at a higher cost. But surely it was never intended that if a son died while staying away from his home, he should be called a stranger. Yet this very case occurred in Mr. Briant's family. Mr. Edward Briant, a son, went to pay a visit of a few weeks to a brother at Woolwich. He there became ill and died. and when his father made application for the funeral in our Churchyard, he was informed that he must pay double fees. Mr. Briant appealed to the Vestry, and I am sorry to say, in vain. It seems a hard case. It is all the harder because the Vestry passed a resolution that in future such cases should be leniently judged, but that the resolution could not be made to cover the past.

As we are upon the subject of Fees, I here chronicle some of the charges which public opinion, and especially the opinion of the Clergy would resent now. The notion to us of charging for a Sacrament is abhorrent. But in old days there were regular fees for Baptism, even in the Church. I do not know that there ever was a charge made here for public Baptism, but in 1839 the Churchwardens laid before the Vestry the following scale. For a Baptism at home—each child—for the Clergyman one guinea, and for the Clerk 5s. If the Churching Service was also performed at the same time, then the fee for the Clergyman rose to £1 11s. 6d., and the Clerk obtained 7s. 6d., and 6d. extra was charged for going back to the Church to make an entry of the Baptism. These fees are most astonishing. It surely is a better state of things with us now, when fees for Baptism are rejected with indignation. Yet the old feeling still lingers; I was asked the other day, after visiting a dying person, what my fee was.

n fifty years ago the fee to the Clergyman for the Churching

Service in the Church was 6d., for the Clerk 4d., and for the Sexton 2d.! I do not know why the fee here should have been divided between three people. It is a better system, now, that the Churching fee should be optional, and that the money, if given, should be placed upon the Lord's Table as an offering to the poor. It was a generous deed upon the part of the Sextoness a few years ago that she consented to forego her share if the Vicar gave up his. In the same list of fees I notice that in the vaults a burial was very expensive, and among the items are some strange ones: Sleepers 2s. 6d., Candles 2s. 6d.

### ORIGIN OF THE NAMES OF STREETS.

"Farmer's Road" is so called after Mr. Thomas Farmer, who owned the vitriol works which stood upon the site now covered by S. Agnes' Church.

"Thomas Street" was also called after him.

"Bolton Street" was so called after James Bolton, a great uncle of Mr. Farmer. Formerly there was a part of Thomas Street. called "James' Place." This was after Mr. Bolton also. Mr. Bolton's business was on Ludgate Hill: his daughter afterwards married Lord Thurlow.

# ON CRICKET IN GENERAL, AND ON SURREY CRICKET IN PARTICULAR.

Cricket in the olden time.—The following facts are put together for the benefit of some of the rising generation of Cricketers:—

The Old Style.—Cricketers of this generation would be surprised to see the game as it used to be played a century ago. For instance, the stumps used to be 1-ft. high and 2.ft. wide:

There were only two upright stumps, with one across the top. Of course many straight balls simply passed through the wicket without disarranging it, and the batsman was not out: and a rising ball would pass at a very safe distance over the top. All the bowling was underhand, and did not as a rule get up very high; this had its effect upon the kind of bat that was used.

There are one or two specimens still in existence, which show that in those days they were curved, so that a ball which we should now call "a grub" could be hoisted up into the air. safely over the heads of the fields. Strangest of all, there was a hole dug in the ground, close to the wicket, into which the batsman put the end of his bat: and when he ran, the way to run him out was to get the ball into hole before the bat could get there. It is said that there were so many injuries to the wicket-keeper's hands through this mad rush to the hole, that it was determined to take to the modern custom of putting down the wicket. We may put down 1700 as a date for the above broad and low wicket: Then about 1775, they changed to the narrow and tall style, 22-in. high and 6-in. wide, and one long bail. In about 1798, the wickets became 24-in. by 7-in. with one bail, and about 1817, they were made 27-in. by 8-in. with two bails. It is interesting, however, that the length of the ground has never altered; it has always stood at 22-yds., and the weight of the ball is the same now as in  $1774-5\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. to  $5\frac{3}{4}$ -oz.; and with regard to the width of the bat it was fixed in 1774 at 4½-in... and it has remained so ever since. It is of course the custom now to toss for the choice of innings, but in the last century it was the practice to allow the visitors choice of innings: in 1816. the present rule of tossing was brought in, though with a note that where there were return matches the visitors still had the choice.

Betting at Cricket.—All writers agree that there was a critical time for the game some sixty years ago. Large bets were made, sometimes as much as 500 guineas, and even 1000 guineas being lost or won. Old Beldham corroborates this and says that most unpleasant recriminations were sometimes bandied about: "Who lost the match for Surrey"? "Who bowled at anything but the wicket for Kent,"? &c. I suppose no game is at the present day so free from betting as Cricket. In those old days runs were called "notches," and they were regularly cut on a stick, each tenth run being shown by a deeper cut.

Introduction of Terms.—The term "stumped" by so and so is first found in 1746. Bryan, in a Kent and England match, is entered as "stumped" by Kips. The next entry of the kind is 32 years later, in 1778: and the next in 1782. It is supposed that such doings were entered before this as "run out"; and then it was felt in time, when wicket-keepers stood up to the wicket, that they did not get their due unless their deeds were definitely

recorded. Again, "hit wicket" first occurs in 1773 and not again till 1786: it was probably entered as "bowled." The same is true about "leg before wicket:" it was formerly entered as Another curious fact is that not until 1833 was the bowler's name inserted in the case of a catch: it was a strange omission from our point of view. In due time the long-stop got his due: and in 1850 a rule was passed by which leg-byes were entered as such, to distinguish them from the faults of the long-Four years later it was agreed that the rule by which a stop. side followed its innings if 100 behind was altered to 80 runs. and in a single day's match to 60 runs. Again, wides were not called nor counted in the score till after 1810. The bowlers bowled underhand and there was no risk of wides until round arm bowling came in. It was possible therefore, in 1810, for Lambert to bowl wides on purpose to Lord Frederick Beauclerk "to put him out of temper" and then to bowl him out, Old players also tell us that the choice of the ground was not left to a ground keeper who picked the best and smoothest bit: that would not have suited some of the old "dodgers." It is said of one renowned Hambledon man, Stevens (his usual name was "Lumpy") that he used to be up with the lark on a match day morning to go out and look for a likely spot to suit his own bowling. He wished for none of your perfect pitches, but for "a brow" as he called it, a gentle descent down which his own balls might shoot with deadly effect.

And what was the costume of the early players? "Nankeen breeches, silk stockings, with a pair of thick socks pulled over them, and rolled over the ankle, laced boots with small nails, white shirts, and hats: gentlemen wore white hats" (Gale). I need not say that there were no pads or gloves then. ground was dreadfully lumpy and some of the bowlers were very Old Beldham said "We never thought of knocks; and fast. remember, I played against Brown of Brighton too. Certainly you would see a bump heave under the stocking, and even the the blood came through: but I never saw a man killed, now you ask the question; just think of the old fashion, sir, before cricket shoes, when I saw John Wells tear a finger nail off against his shoe buckle in picking up a ball!" (This same John Wells, by the by, was a dead shot at the wicket, and was very successful. in consequence, in single wicket matches). I remember old Mr. Grimston telling me that he used to play sometimes with the blood pouring from his knuckles, but doggedly making no difference. Beldham says, "In our days there were no padded gloves. I have seen Tom Walker rub his bleeding fingers in the dust! David Walker used to say he liked to rind him." And yet with good bowling on rough ground, our friend Beldham says, "for thirteen years I averaged forty-free a match, though frequently I had only one innings."

But human nature was the same then as now. We have heard in our own days of captains who would keep on bowling when every one else (except the batsmen) called for a change. Lord Frederick Beauclerk had the same fault. "I knew I should get you" he at once said to Mr. Ward: "Yes, but I have scored 80" was the reply. On another occasion is was said to one of the best slow bowlers some years ago, "Do not you think we had better have a change?" "Yes, I think we had, I will go on at the other end!" (The facts in this article are very largely taken from an article on "Cricket" in the 'Quarterly Review,' October, 1884.)

Single Wicket Matches.—These were very common many years ago, but they are almost unknown now. Mr. Gale gives an amusing account of one between Alfred Mynn, the great Kent fast bowler, and Dearman of Yorkshire. Dearman claimed the championship, and Mynn was put forward to beat him. "Dearman was a little man, and Alfred Mynn looked like a giant I can see him now, in a close fitting jersey bound with red ribbon, a red belt round his waist, and a straw hat with a broad red ribbon. Dearman, who had never been beaten, and was heavily backed by the Yorkshiremen, had not the smallest chance with his opponent, and I verily believe Alfred Mynn, out of sheer kindness of heart, gave him a few off balls in the second innings as Dearman had 120 to the bad. The little man made some beautiful off hits before the boundary stump, and was much cheered; but when it got near 6 o'clock shouts of 'Time's short. Alfred; finish him off!' were heard from the throats of lusty Kentish veomen, and I have a vision of a middle stump flying in the air and spinning like a wheel."

### CHAPTER XIV.

### SURREY CRICKET IN THE OLD DAYS.

"Let us now praise famous men, and our fathers that begot us."
Perhaps the writer of Ecclesiasticus will permit us to use his
words with reference to the men who were famous for skill
in the noblest of all outdoor games.

I propose to tell of the "famous men" of old Surrey in the cricket field. But first, one word about more recent matches. It has been one of the privileges accorded to the Vicar of Kennington, in past days, to witness, from a window in the Vicarage, many a vast, good humoured, happy crowd impartially

cheering failures and successes.

"What can be more enjoyable than a comfortable seat on a fine day with a match to view and a pipe to smoke." Such was our reflection as we watched one of the most curious effects I ever witnessed on a certain Easter Monday. Just as a ball was being bowled apparently every one paused to give undivided attention to the result, and then—puff!—from 500 pipes there went up as many clouds of smoke from the mass of spectators, just as if a regiment had opened fire at a review. This phenomenon certainly recurred throughout the afternoon and we could regularly time the moment for the volley of smoke according as the company paused to look, or relaxed their attention to keep the pipes alight. Long may the Oval continue to afford good sport and the best of recreation to hardworking South London!

The first fully recorded Surrey match.

### SURREY v. KENT.

### AT BISHOPSBOURNE PADDOCK, NEAR CANTERBURY, July 24th-26th, 1773.

FIRST INNINGS.	SU	RRE	Y.		SECOND :	INNI	rgs.	
Earl of Tankerville, b T. May	•••	•••	0	•••	c Davis	•••		3
- Bartholomew, Esq., c Simmo						•••		10
— Lewis, Esq., b Dorset								21
- Stone, Esq., b Dorset						•••	•••	24
— Lumpy, b Miller							•••	8
T. Wood, c Mann							•••	
— Palmer, Esq., c Davis						• • • •		38
T. White, b Dorset						•••		60
W. Yalden, not out								1
— Child, b T. May		•••	0	•••	b Dorset		•••	3
R. Francis, b Dorset	•••	•••	5	•••	c Wood		•••	36
Вуе	•••	•••	1	•••	Byes	•••	•••	7
		_					_	

		KE	NT.				
FIRST INNINGS.						SECOND INNINGS.	
Duke of Dorset, b Wood				25		b Wood	1
Sir Horace Mann, b Wood .				3		c Tankerville	22
_ Davis, Esq., b Wood				4		c Lewis	0
E. Hussey, Esq., not out	•••	•••		Õ		b Wood	0
J. Miller, c Yalden				13		run out	10
- Simmons, b Lumpy				5		c Yalden	4
Richard May, b Wood				ŏ		not out	3
Thomas May, b Lumpy				4		c Child	5
George Louch, Esq., c Stone.	•••			5	•••	b Lumpy	26
- Pattenden, Esq., c Lewis .	••	•••	•••	ŏ	•••	b Lumpy	-1
J. Wood (of Seal), c Wood .	•••	•••	•••	1	•••	c Bartholomew	9
			••		•••	_	ő
Byes	• • •	•••	•••	0	•••	Byes	U
				_			
				63			81

Surrey won by 153 runs.

Let us realise the state of Cricket 116 years ago.

Notice that when a man is caught the bowler's name is not given. It was not inserted till 1833. No wides are mentioned, and doubtless none were bowled, but if they had been they would not have been mentioned—for they were not scored till about 1810. No one is out "leg-before-wicket" and it is doubtful whether it was a fault for which a man was put out at this time. It is recorded of Thomas Taylor and of J. Ring that they were shabby enough to put a leg before the wicket while batting and caused the rule about leg-before-wicket to be added to the rules. This was shortly after 1775 in all likelihood.

Nor is there any one "stumped," though Yalden was a very good wicket keeper. The first appearance of the term "stumped" is as early as 1746 in a Kent and England match, but it does not occur again till October, 1778, in a Surrey and Hambledon match, where there is the entry "st. Yalden."

You would have seen no pads or gloves either. They did not come in till round arm bowling introduced them about 1830. There were no spikes in the shoes, and no sawdust for the bowlers—both of these last aids were introduced about 1800.

R. Robinson is said to have invented pads. But Lord Bessborough says—"The first man I ever saw in any leg-guard, was Buckingham from Hertfordshire (I think): He played at Lord's in leather boots with padding in them." Lord Frederick Beauclerk observed—"If you are going to let a man play in such things, no one ought ever to be bowled out."

Now read over the Surrey eleven of 1773—There are two

names there at least of first-rate players, "Lumpy" and Yalden. So good were they that they were often "given" in a match, to the other side.

LUMPY.—Lillywhite says that his real name was Edward Stevens though he always played under the name of Lumpy because (said Beldham in 1857) he was so fat. A Hampshire paper however gives us the reason that once in a Hambledon match "he did eat a whole apple pie." A third account says he earned the nickname for some peculiarity in his bowling. could not bat-but was a splendid bowler, being more sure of his length than any man, and he never tired; his pace was faster than Lord Frederick Beauclerk's, but much slower than David Harris. During the greater part of his career he had to bowl at two stumps only and if the ball went between, it was not out. Lumpy indeed was the cause of the change of wickets. In a match in May, 1775, between Kent and Hambledon (five a side), Small went in for Kent with 14 runs to get—Lumpy three times sent the ball right through the wicket, and as it was felt to be very hard upon a bowler, the stumps were made six inches wide, numbering three, and one foot high. Our friend was also very partial to bowling "shooters" and used to search the ground over first in order to find a spot where "a brow" would help him and there he had the wickets pitched. It was in consequence of this amiable proceeding that the following lines were penned after another match in 1773 (also between Kent and Surrey).

> But when the Kentish men went in, Reason confessed they could not win; For honest Lumpy did allow He ne'er could pitch but o'er a brow: And Kentish sportsmen said that they Deep in a hole could never play: So Surrey did the victory gain, By Lumpy, fortune, art, and rain.

Lumpy did not bowl for catches: but the Earl of Tankerville once bet £100 and (won it) that Lumpy would hit a feather laid

upon the ground once in four balls.

The book of "Scores" does not contain this cricketer's earlier performances, for in 1773 he must have been 38. Lumpy, though he lived first at Chertsey, was latterly gardener to the Earl of Tankerville at Walton-on-Thames. In the Pavilion at Lord's there is a picture of the Hambledon Club, and the person bowling, with his left hand resting on his knee, is supposed to be Lumpy himself, and in the Waterloo Inn, Barn Green, near

Hambledon, there is a picture of him dancing with a jug of ale in his hand: from which we may gather that he was a merry and

jovial companion.

A copy of verses was written by the Rev. J. Duncombe, Curate of Sundridge, (no doubt a good cricketer) in imitation of "Chevy Chase" upon the very match which I have given above between Surrey and Kent. I insert some of the verses, and the first lines seem to suggest the cunning ways of friend Lumpy.

"The Surrey sportsmen chose the ground;

The ball did swiftly fly:
On Monday they began to play
Before the grass was dry.

The fieldsmen stationed on the lawn, Well able to endure, Their loins with snow white satin

vests
That day had guarded sure.

The Surrey bowlers bent their backs,
Their aims were good and true:
And every ball that escaped the bat,
A wicket overthrew.

They ran full fast on every side, No slackness there was found: And many a ball that mounted high Ne'er lighted on the ground.

At last Sir Horace took the field, A batter of great might: Moved like a lion, he awhile Put Surrey in a fright.

He swung till both his arms did ache His bat of seasoned wood: Till down his asure sleeves the sweat Ran trickling like a flood.

With that there came a ball most keen
Out of a Surrey hand:
He struck it full, it mounted high,
But ah! ne'er reached the land."—&c., &c.

(The words in italics are the same as in "Chevy Chase.").

William Yalden was a licensed victualler at Chertsey; and was a wicket keeper. He left off cricket for a year on account of his eyesight, but the Earl of Tankerville said to him one day "Try again, Yalden"—and he tried and did better than ever. He once, when fielding, jumped over a fence and when he had fallen on his back still caught the ball. He died in 1824 at the age of 84. (Lilywhite's scores).

W. Bedster played for Surrey for about ten seasons. He was a first-rate bat, so good that he was often a "given" man. At one time he was butler to Lord Tankerville at Walton-on-

Thames. He died about 1805.

THE EARL OF TANKERVILLE probably played his best matches before 1772. He was a great patron of the game, and kept Lumpy and Bedster as, respectively, gardener and butler. It was good for cricket, but I wonder how the garden and the

pantry fared throughout the summer months. In an old song he is called "The active Earl of Tankerville." He appears to have given up cricket about 1781.

### NYREN'S REMINISCENCES.

I give here the hints and gossip of an old Cricketer who

thoroughly knew the game. Nyren's book is scarce.

"How to play at a length ball a little wide of the off stump."— This is a puzzler to a short-armed batsman. I recommend the young batsman to have nothing to do with it. The old hand will, of course, do as he pleases: but I should much wish to be informed in what part of the field he can play it with safety and make a run. Beldham would cut at such a ball with a horizontal bat. I once made the remark to him that I thought it dangerous play; he answered me, "I always play above the ball." He was

the only good batter that I ever saw play at such balls.

"How to play at a ball dropped rather short of a length on the off-side."—Old Small, one of the finest batsmen of his own day, always played such balls with an upright bat. He would pass his left foot across the wicket, and this action gave him power and command over the ball. I do not remember to have seen Lambert cut at a ball with the bat held horizontally. Such as I have described he always played with an upright bat. Lord Frederick Beauclerk mostly, Beldham always, and the principal batters, played the bat horizontally at such balls. . . . I shall venture to offer the young batsman my own opinion. frequently played in both styles, and I consider the holding of the bat upright the safer, and horizontally the more brilliant play. At the same time, which ever way it be played, I still recommend the movement of the left foot across the wicket. (Such is Nyren's opinion. But I cannot understand his advice about the left foot for a good length ball. I notice also that Murdock in an article on "Cricket" gives the same advice. But to move the right foot and not the left, across to a ball which gives you but little time after the pitch, seems only common sense. H. H. T.)

Here are also hints on bowling, some of them full of humour. "1. In pitching the wickets (it was formerly done by the eleven), you must be careful to suit your bowling. If you have one slow and one fast bowler, pitch your wickets right up and down wind. If your bowling is all fast, and your opponents have a slow bowler, pitch your wickets with a cross wind, that you may in some degree destroy the effect of the slow bowling. If either of your bowlers twist his balls, favour such twist as much as possible by taking care to choose the ground at that spot where the ball should pitch its proper length, sloping a little inwards.

2. If two players are well in, and warm with getting runs fast, and one should happen to be put out, supply his place

immediately lest the other become cold and stiff.

3. If you bring forward a fast bowler as change, contrive, if fortune so favour you, that he shall bowl his first ball when a cloud is passing over, because you may thereby stand a good

chance of getting him out.

4. When it is difficult to part two batsmen, and either of them has a favourite hit, I have often succeeded in getting him out by opening the field where his hit is placed, at the same time hinting to the bowler to give him a different style of ball. This, with the opening of the field, has tempted him to plant his favourite hit, and in his anxiety to do so, has not unfrequently committed an error fatal to him."

It may be remarked that Small, who is mentioned by Nyren, as cutting with an upright bat, is the very man through whose wicket Lumpy bowled three times without displacing the bail, and in consequence of which the wickets were altered. At the same time Lumpy did not always have such luck with Small.

Nyren says, referring to his choice of the ground, "He would invariably choose the ground where his balls would shoot, instead of selecting a rising spot to bowl against, which would have materially increased the difficulty to the hitter, seeing that so many more would be caught out by the mounting of the ball. nothing however delighted the old man like bowling a wicket down with a shooting ball he would sacrifice the other chances to the glory of that achievement. Many a time have I seen our General twig this prejudice in the old man, when matched against us, and chuckle at it. But I believe it was the only mistake he ever made, professional or moral, for he was a most simple and amiable creature. Yes, one other he committed, and many a day after was the joke remembered against him. One of our matches having been concluded early in the day, a long, raw-boned countryman came up and offered to play any one of the 22 at single wicket for five pounds. Old Nyren told Lumpy it would be five pounds easily earned, and persuaded him to accept the challenge. Lumpy, however, would not stake the whole sum himself, but offered a pound of the money, and the

rest was subscribed. The confident old bowler made the countryman go in first, for he thought to settle his business in a twink: but the fellow having an arm as long as a hop pole, reached in at Lumpy's balls, bowl what length he might, and slashed away in the most ludicrous style, hitting his balls all over the field, and always up in the air: and he made an uncommon number of runs from this prince of bowlers before he could get him out: and he beat him! For when Lumpy went in, not being a good batter, while the other was a very fast bowler all along the ground and straight to the wicket, he knocked him out presently, the whole ring roaring with laughter, and the astounded old bowler swearing he would never play another

single wicket match as long as he lived."

The Match I now chronicle has several points of interest. First, the England Eleven is very largely composed of Surrey men-Miller, Minshull, Yalden, Lumpy and Wood, were all from Surrey. Secondly, this match was almost the first played with three stumps. On May 22nd, 1775, Lumpy bowled thrice through Small's wicket: on June 18th, 1777, we find that, after much discussion, the change had been effected. Listen to Nyren once "Many amateurs were of opinion at the time that the alteration would tend to shorten the game: and subsequently the Hampshire gentlemen did me the honour of taking my opinion upon this point. I agreed with them that it was but doing justice to the bowler: but I differed upon the question that it would shorten the game: because the striker, knowing the danger of missing one straight ball with three instead of two stumps behind him, would materially redouble his care: while every loose, hard hitter would learn to stop, and play as safe a game as possible. The following record will prove whether my opinion were well or ill founded." (And then comes the match below). Nyren also makes the following interesting reflection:-"The reader will not fail likewise to remark the difference of amount in the score between the first and second innings on the England side: the men were either disheartened at the towering pre-eminence of the adverse party; or which is more probable, the latter like good generals, would not throw away a single chance: but although the odds were so greatly in their favour, they, instead of relaxing or showing any indifference, fielded with still greater care than in the first innings. This is the genuine spirit of emulation." The score is given as in "Lillywhite's Scores."

### ON THE VINE, AT SEVENOAKS, June 18th-20th, 1777.

		MI G	TIVE	vD.			
FIRST INNINGS.						SECOND INNINGS	J.
W. Bullen, c Tankerville		• • •			•••	b Nyren	. 2
- Pattenden, b Brett		•••		38	••	c Sueter	. 0
J. Miller, c Small				27		b Brett	. 23
- Minshull, not out				60	•••	b Taylor	. 12
T. White, c Veck		•••	•••	8	•••	run out	. 10
Duke of Dorset, b. Brett				0		c Tankerville	. 5
W. Yalden, c. Small				6	•••	c Nyren	. 8
W. Bowra, b Brett				2	•••	b Taylor	. 4
77 75 1 75 11				8	•••	b Brett	. 2
- Lumpy, b Brett				1		not out	. 2
- Wood, b Brett				1	•••	b Nyren	. 1
Byes				2		Вуев	. 0
•			_			. *	
•				166			69
77	4361	OT 173	DO3	. 01	r TTD	•	

### HAMBLEDON CLUB.

FIRST INNINGS.		
R. Veck, b Lumpy		16
J. Aylward, b Bullen		167
J. Small, sen., c White, b Lumpy		33
Earl of Tankerville, b Wood		3
T. Sueter, b Wood		46
G. Leer, b Wood		
T. Taylor, c Bullen, b Wood		32
R. Nyren, b Lumpy		37
R. Francis, c and b Wood		28
E. Aburrow, c Minshull, b Bullen		22
T. Brett, not out		9
Byes		
Dyes	•••	
		400

Won by an innings and 168 runs.

There are very few innings of the old days of 400: this is one of them. It is said on a printed bill of the time that "Aylward went in at Five o'clock on Wednesday afternoon and was not out till after Three on Friday:" there was the best bowling of the day against him and the grounds were very rough. Copies of this match were sent by many people to the compiler of the "scores" when he asked for the old matches. It was a very famous performance; and the Hambledon Eleven contains the names of the earliest veterans of Cricket. Nyren in his book gives a history of almost all of them. Miller and Minshull were Surrey men. Nyren says, "these were the only two batters the Hambledon men were afraid of; but they seem to have differed in character." Nyren says, "that Minshull was as conceited as

a wagtail." Miller he describes as "a beautiful player, always to be depended on: there was no flash, no cock-a-whoop about him but steady as the Pyramids."

Under-hand Bowling.—Old Nyren says of Beldham, "one of the finest treats in cricketing that I remember was to see this admirable man in with the beautiful bowling of Harris." And as we can hardly have a complete idea of our great Surrey antediluvian batsman without picturing to ourselves his constant opponent, I give Nyren's account of Harris as he bowled:—"It would be difficult, perhaps impossible, to convey in writing an accurate idea of the grand effect of Harris's bowling. attitude when preparing for his run, previously to delivering the ball, would have made a beautiful study for the sculptor. First of all, he stood erect like a soldier at drill: then, with a graceful curve of the arm, he raised the ball to his forehead and drawing back his right foot, started off with his left. The calm look and general air of the man were uncommonly striking, and from this series of preparations he never deviated. . . His mode of delivering the ball was very singular. He would bring it from under the arm by a twist, and nearly as high as his arm-pit, and with this action push it, as it were, from him. How it was that the balls acquired the velocity they did by this mode of delivery, I never could comprehend. . . . When first he joined the Hambledon Club, he was quite a raw country-man and had very little to recommend him but his noble delivery. He was also very apt to give tosses. Old Nyren used to scratch his head, and say, 'Harris would make the best bowler in England if he did not toss.' By continual practice he became as steady as could be wished; and in the prime of his playing very rarely indeed gave a toss, although his balls were pitched the full length. His balls were very little beholden to the ground when pitched: it was but a touch and up again: and woe be to the man who did not get in to block them, for they had such a peculiar curl that they would grind his fingers against the bat. Many a time have I seen the blood drawn in this way from an old batter who was not up to the trick: old Tom Walker was the only exception. I have classed him among the bloodless animals. Harris's bowling was the finest of all tests for a hitter. and hence the great beauty, as I observed before, of seeing Beldham in with this man against him: for unless a batter were of the very first-class, and accustomed to the first style of stopping, he could do little or nothing with Harris. If the

thing had been possible, I should have liked to have seen such a player as Budd (fine hitter as he was) standing against him. My own opinion is that he could not have stopped his balls, and this will be a criterion, by which those who have seen some of that gentleman's brilliant hits, may judge of the extraordinary merit of this man's bowling. . . . . Lord Frederick Beauclerk has been heard to say that Harris's bowling was one of the grandest things of the kind he had ever seen; but his lordship could not have known him in his prime: he never saw him play till after he had had many fits of the gout and had become slow and feeble. To Harris's bowling I attribute the great improvement that was made in hitting, and above all in stopping: for it was utterly impossible to remain at the crease, when the ball was tossed to a fine length: you were obliged to get in, or it would be about your hands, or the handle of your bat: and every player knows where its next place would be." David Harris played his first recorded match in 1782, and died in 1803. an instance of his accuracy of bowling (and remember it was under-hand) I give a single wicket match in which several good names occur.

### SINGLE WICKET MATCH AT LORD'S, August 21st and 22nd, 1788.

#### SIX OF ENGLAND. FIRST INNINGS. SECOND INNINGS. balls hits balls hits Earl of Winchelsea 63 49 b Mann 176 143 b Taylor 5 b Mann 0 W. Bullen ... ... 65 55 b Harris 52 b Harris T. Walker ... 60 4 233 186 b Harris W. Beldham 13 11 b Harris 0 66 60 b Harris ... ... - Butcher ... 31 26 b Harris 0 c Harris 0 ... ... ... W. Fennex ... 7 5 b Harris 1 22 20 b Harris 0 8 19 SIX OF HAMPSHIRE. FIRST INNINGS. SECOND INNINGS. balls hits balls hits 0 b Fennex 6 b Bullen 0 G. Talbot, Esq. 2 68 49 b Fennex J. Small, senr. ... . . . 60 c Walker 12 78 R. Purchase ... ... 2 b Bullen 4 D. Harris... ... ... 10 b Bullen N. Mann ... 12 1 40 33 not out ... T. Taylor ... 19 16 b Fennex 24

Look at the above score. First Hampshire wins, and, apparently, because Harris is irresistible: even Beldham cannot

get him away. Harris bowls 8, and catches one out of 12. Notice again that almost every ball has to be hit; the bowling is so straight, not straighter however than it has again become now that everyone bowls over-hand. Look also at Tom Walker's second innings—our old Surrey friend must have been somewhat wearisome to look at—233 balls, equal to 47 overs, and only 5 runs were obtained!

Fennex, who played for England in this match, was one of the first to introduce forward play. He was a strong, powerful man; and "at the age of 75 he walked 90 miles in three days, carrying an umbrella, a bundle of clothes and three cricket bats, and spent during that time but three shillings."

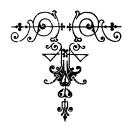
SURREY v. ENGLAND.—This match was first played in 1794. I give it in order that it may remind the Surrey Club (if they need reminding) that such a match may still be played again, and, let us hope, with like results.

AT LORD'S, June 9th, 10th, and 11th, 1794.

FIRST INNINGS.	8	SUR	REI	7.		SECOND	TNN	nvas	
Earl of Winchelsea, b Boxha	11			12		b Fennex			1
Hon. — Twistleton, b Hamm			•••	õ	•••	D Pomica	•••	•••	•
G. Louch, Esq., b Harris		• •••		41		not out			9
		•••	•••	9		c Scott	•••	•••	8
T. Mellish, Esq., not out	•••	••••	•••	72	•••	b Fennex	•••	•••	
W. Beldham, c Fennex	•••	•••	•••	8	•••	o rennex	•••	•••	102
John Wells, c Hammond	•••	•••	•••	6					_
T. Walker, b Harris	•••	•••	•••		•••	run out	•••	•••	5
H. Walker, c Hammond	•••	•••	•••	23	•••	not out	•••	•••	115
R. Robinson, b Boxall	•••	•••	•••	38	•••	run out	•••	•••	12
S. Walker, c Smith	• • •	•••	•••	6					
— Hampton, b Harris	•••	•••	•••	4		_			
Byes	•••	•••	•••	4		Bye	86	•••	7
			-					•	
				223					259
FIRST INNINGS.	$\mathbf{E}$	NGI	AN	D.		SECOND	INN	DYGS.	
		NGI 	LAN 	D. 0		SECOND b T. Wall		DYGS.	11
A. Smith, Esq., b Hampton		NGI	LAN 				ter		
A. Smith, Esq., b Hampton Hon. H. Tufton, c Beldham				0		b T. Wall	er	•••	11 6 10
A. Smith, Esq., b Hampton Hon. H. Tufton, c Beldham C. Anguish, Esq., c Beldham		•••		0 4		b T. Walk b T. Walk b Beldham	er er		6 10
A. Smith, Esq., b Hampton Hon. H. Tufton, c Beldham C. Anguish, Esq., c Beldham J. Small, junr., b T. Walker		 		0 4 5		b T. Walk b T. Walk b Beldham b Hampto	cer cer n		6 10 0
A. Smith, Esq., b Hampton Hon. H. Tufton, c Beldham C. Anguish, Esq., c Beldham J. Small, junr., b T. Walker W. Fennex, b T. Walker		 		0 4 5 0 44		b T. Walk b T. Walk b Beldham b Hampto b T. Walk	er er n		6 10 0 9
A. Smith, Esq., b Hampton Hon. H. Tufton, c Beldham C. Anguish, Esq., c Beldham J. Small, junr., b T. Walker W. Fennex, b T. Walker J. Ring, b T. Walker		 		0 4 5 0 44 0		b T. Walk b T. Walk b Beldham b Hampto b T. Walk not out	er er n		6 10 0 9 75
A. Smith, Esq., b Hampton Hon. H. Tufton, c Beldham C. Anguish, Esq., c Beldham J. Small, junr., b T. Walker W. Fennex, b T. Walker J. Ring, b T. Walker T. Scott, c Robinson		 		0 4 5 0 44 0 15		b T. Walk b T. Walk b Beldham b Hampto b T. Walk not out c T. Walk	ter ter n ter		6 10 0 9 75 43
A. Smith, Esq., b Hampton Hon. H. Tufton, c Beldham C. Anguish, Esq., c Beldham J. Small, junr., b T. Walker W. Fennex, b T. Walker J. Ring, b T. Walker T. Scott, c Robinson		 		0 4 5 0 44 0 15		b T. Walk b T. Walk b Beldham b Hampto b T. Walk not out c T. Walk c Beldham	ter ter n ter ter		6 10 0 9 75 43 26
A. Smith, Esq., b Hampton Hon. H. Tufton, c Beldham C. Anguish, Esq., c Beldham J. Small, junr., b T. Walker W. Fennex, b T. Walker J. Ring, b T. Walker T. Scott, c Robinson A. Freemantle, b Beldham J. Hammond, c T. Walker		 		0 4 5 0 44 0 15 1		b T. Walk b T. Walk b Beldham b Hampto b T. Walk not out c T. Walk c Beldham b T. Walk	cer cer n cer		6 10 0 9 75 43 26 6
A. Smith, Esq., b Hampton Hon. H. Tufton, c Beldham C. Anguish, Esq., c Beldham J. Small, junr., b T. Walker W. Fennex, b T. Walker J. Ring, b T. Walker T. Scott, c Robinson A. Freemantle, b Beldham J. Hammond, c T. Walker T. Boxall, run out				0 4 5 0 44 0 15 1		b T. Walk b T. Walk b Beldham b Hampto b T. Walk not out c T. Walk c Beldham b T. Walk b T. Walk	cer i i er cer cer		6 10 0 9 75 43 26 6 8
A. Smith, Esq., b Hampton Hon. H. Tufton, c Beldham C. Anguish, Esq., c Beldham J. Small, junr., b T. Walker W. Fennex, b T. Walker J. Ring, b T. Walker T. Scott, c Robinson A. Freemantle, b Beldham J. Hammond, c T. Walker T. Boxall, run out D. Harris, not out		 		0 4 5 0 44 0 15 1 9		b T. Walk b T. Walk b Beldham b Hampto b T. Walk not out c T. Walk c Beldham b T. Walk b T. Walk b T. Walk	cer n cer cer cer		6 10 0 9 75 43 26 6 8
A. Smith, Esq., b Hampton Hon. H. Tufton, c Beldham C. Anguish, Esq., c Beldham J. Small, junr., b T. Walker W. Fennex, b T. Walker J. Ring, b T. Walker T. Scott, c Robinson A. Freemantle, b Beldham J. Hammond, c T. Walker T. Boxall, run out				0 4 5 0 44 0 15 1		b T. Walk b T. Walk b Beldham b Hampto b T. Walk not out c T. Walk c Beldham b T. Walk b T. Walk	cer n cer cer cer		6 10 0 9 75 43 26 6 8

At first sight the score looks mysterious. Apparently Surrey were so many runs a head, after losing 5 wickets in their second innings, that they put their opponents in, and accordingly beat them by 5 wickets and 197 runs.

It may also be stated that the old Hambledon Club was broken up in 1791, and then Surrey seems to have taken its place as the leader in cricket. But there seems to have been no central ground for the Surrey Eleven.



### CHAPTER XV.

### CRICKET AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS CENTURY.

In 1767, the names of Hambledon, Surrey, and Kent were the leading names in Cricket. In 1793, Surrey played All England, headed them in the first innings, but lost the match by seven wickets. In 1794, Surrey played thirteen of England and only lost by three runs. In 1795, Surrey easily beat thirteen of England. In 1796, Surrey beat an eleven of England in one innings, after giving them one of the Walkers. There were two brothers, Walkers, Tom and Harry. Tom was called "Old Everlasting" from his heart-breaking and incorruptible defence. But it was said of Harry, that though Tom was more to be depended upon, Harry's half-hour was as good at the wicket as Tom's whole afternoon. (Pycroft's "Cricket Field.")

Mr. Ward was Member for the City of London. It was he who took the Chair at the Horns in 1844, to start the Surrey County Club on the Oval. Very fitly therefore does his portrait hang in the pavilion; and it is here reproduced by the permission of the Committee. Mr. Ward was an enthusiastic cricketer: it was his custom to sit on a chair in some part of the field where he might give undivided attention to the game, and it is in this

characteristic attitude that he is depicted.

"Old Ward" was not a Surrey man, but as he was the chief promoter of Surrey cricket at the Oval. Let me give his history. He stood 6-ft. 1-in., and in his prime he made enormous scores. In 1820 he made 278 in his first innings for M.C.C. against Norfolk, and on four other occasions he scored 200 in a single match. It is also said that he never obtained what cricketers will know as "a pair of spectacles." His bat used to weigh about 4 lbs. In 1825 he purchased from Thomas Lord the lease of "Lord's Cricket Ground." A very heavy sum was demanded for it, which he willingly paid in order to save the ground from the builders. In 1836 J. H. Dark purchased the remainder of the lease from him, and, as is well-known, the ground now is the freehold property of the M.C.C. It is worthy of note, therefore, that Mr. Ward took a conspicuous share in establishing the two chief Metropolitan Cricket Grounds.

Look at the old gentleman and you will see that he is a character and has a will of his own. He is famous for having tried to inaugurate a match called "Ward's Folly," or the Barn-



WILLIAM WARD, Esq., M.P.

 $\mathcal{S}$   $\mathcal{M}$ 

door match. In the year 1837 Mr. Ward proposed that as the Players were so much better than the Gentlemen (and for many years at that time they were so much better that the match was dropped) they should have to defend larger wickets. With great difficulty Mr. Ward got together a team of gentlemen who consented to defend wickets 27 inches by 8, while the Players had to use wickets 36 inches by 12. Shall I confess the truth? The Players beat the Gentlemen by an innings and ten runs. The big stumps were preserved at Lord's, and doubtless are there still.

Surrey Cricket in 1800.—Let us come back now to the opening year of this century. Cricket began in Surrey with an unparalleled act of generosity upon the part of the county. A match was played at Lord's on June 11th, 12th, 13th, 1800, between Surrey and England, and Surrey gave England her best bat, field, and bowler, in the person of W. Beldham. The scores were not large on either side, in no case amounting to 100. I give the match in full; Surrey winning by four wickets.

### AT LORD'S, JUNE 11th, 12th, 13th, 1800. ENGLAND WITH BELDHAM.

FIRST INNING	G8.					SECOND INNI	TGS.	
G. Leicester, Esq., b T.				4		b Wells	•••	10
T. Boxall, b T. Walker				6		run out		9
J. Hammond, b Wells				29		not out		5
W. Fennex, run out				16		b Wells		4
W. Beldham, b T. Walke	r			3		b Wells		2
A. Freemantle, run out				8		run out		8
R. Purchase, c Wells			•••	0		c H. Walker	•••	0
J. Tanner, Ésq., b T. Wa	lker		•••	0		b Wells	•••	4
W. Barton, c T. Walker			•••	11		b T. Walker	•••	2
J. Gibbons, Esq., not out				1		run out	•••	0
- Warren, Esq., b T. Wa	alker	••		0	•••	b Wells	•••	3
Вуев		•••	•••	2		Byes	•••	3
•				-				_
				80				47
FIRST INNING	38. £	SUR	REY	• _		SECOND INNIE	ros.	-
T. Walker, c Beldham		•••	REY 	. 7		SECOND INNIE	ras.	-
T. Walker, c Beldham H. Walker, b Beldham		SURJ 	REY 	7 1			ros.	
T. Walker, c Beldham H. Walker, b Beldham R. Robinson, b Boxall			REY 	7 1 5		b Boxall	rgs.	17
T. Walker, c Beldham H. Walker, b Beldham R. Robinson, b Boxall J. Wells, c Beldham		•••	REY	7 1 5 1		b Boxall	rgs.	33
T. Walker, c Beldham H. Walker, b Beldham R. Robinson, b Boxall J. Wells, c Beldham J. Small, jun., b Beldham			REY	7 1 5 1 3		b Boxall run out c Freemantle	rgs.	33 9
T. Walker, c Beldham H. Walker, b Beldham R. Robinson, b Boxall J. Wells, c Beldham J. Small, jun., b Beldham Hon. General Lennox, b	Boxall		REY	7 1 5 1 3 2		b Boxall run out c Freemantle b Boxall	rgs.	33 9 11
T. Walker, c Beldham H. Walker, b Beldham R. Robinson, b Boxall J. Wells, c Beldham J. Small, jun., b Beldham Hon. General Lennox, b R. Whitehead, Esq., b Be	Boxall		  	7 1 5 1 3 2 0	•••	b Boxall c Freemantle b Boxall b Boxall	ras.	33 9 11 18
T. Walker, c Beldham H. Walker, b Beldham R. Robinson, b Boxall J. Wells, c Beldham J. Small, jun., b Beldham Hon. General Lennox, b R. Whitehead, Esq., b Be — Woodroffe, Esq., b Bel	Boxall		  	7 1 5 1 3 2 0	•••	b Boxall c Freemantle b Boxall b Boxall not out		33 9 11 18 0
T. Walker, c Beldham H. Walker, b Beldham R. Robinson, b Boxall J. Wells, c Beldham J. Small, jun., b Beldham Hon. General Lennox, b R. Whitehead, Esq., b Be — Woodroffe, Esq., b Bel Captain Weller, b Boxall	Boxall		REY	7 1 5 1 3 2 0 0	•••	b Boxall c Freemantle b Boxall b Boxall not out not out		33 9 11 18 0 2
T. Walker, c Beldham H. Walker, b Beldham R. Robinson, b Boxall J. Wells, c Beldham J. Small, jun., b Beldham Hon. General Lennox, b B. Whitehead, Esq., b Be — Woodroffe, Esq., b Bel Captain Weller, b Boxall Sir H. Marten, b Boxall	Boxall eldham		   	7 1 5 1 3 2 0 0 10 0		b Boxall c Freemantle b Boxall b Boxall not out run out run out		33 9 11 18 0 2
T. Walker, c Beldham H. Walker, b Beldham R. Robinson, b Boxall J. Wells, c Beldham Hon. General Lennox, b R. Whitehead, Esq., b Be — Woodroffe, Esq., b Bel Captain Weller, b Boxall Gr. Cooper, Esq., not out	Boxall		   	7 1 5 1 3 2 0 0 10 0		b Boxall c Freemantle b Boxall b Boxall not out run out run out c Freemantle		33 9 11 18 0 2 0 7
T. Walker, c Beldham H. Walker, b Beldham R. Robinson, b Boxall J. Wells, c Beldham J. Small, jun., b Beldham Hon. General Lennox, b B R. Whitehead, Esq., b Be — Woodroffe, Esq., b Bel Captain Weller, b Boxall Sir H. Marten, b Boxall G. Cooper, Esq., not out	Boxall eldham		   	7 1 5 1 3 2 0 0 10 0		b Boxall c Freemantle b Boxall b Boxall not out run out run out	 	33 9 11 18 0 2
T. Walker, c Beldham H. Walker, b Beldham R. Robinson, b Boxall J. Wells, c Beldham Hon. General Lennox, b R. Whitehead, Esq., b Be — Woodroffe, Esq., b Bel Captain Weller, b Boxall Gr. Cooper, Esq., not out	Boxall		    	7 1 5 1 3 2 0 0 10 0		b Boxall c Freemantle b Boxall b Boxall not out run out run out c Freemantle	 	33 9 11 18 0 2 0 7

William Beldham was a wonderful cricketer. He was born near Farnham in 1766, but lived the greater part of his life near Tilford. He was for many years thought to be the best batsman in England, and was called "a most venomous hitter." He played in all the great matches for 35 years, which is itself a remarkable performance, for begin your first-class matches at what age you will, 35 years take most men into the stiff and heavy stage of life. Fennex, whose name occurs in so many "England" matches, spoke more highly of Beldham than of any cricketer of his day. He was extraordinarily quick, and sometimes was able to turn round and hit G. Brown's bowling towards long stop, though Brown was probably the fastest bowler that has ever been known in England. Brown's fieldsmen were placed, nearly all of them, behind the wicket. Once at Lord's a man tried to stop one of Brown's balls with his coat, and the ball passed through the coat (pushing it aside) and killed a dog behind it instantaneously. Brown once challenged Beldham to a match when the Surrey batsman was 54 years old, and yet Beldham against this terrific bowling got 72 runs, knocking Brown about so much that the fast bowler hardly dare bowl within Beldham's reach (Pycroft's "Cricket Field."). very tough morsel of humanity did not find cricket disagree with his health. A friend went to visit him in April, 1859, in his 93rd year, and found him at work in his garden before 8 A.M. It is said he did not stoop in the least, and required no stick to walk with. Still more wonderful is the story of his family. He had 39 children! 28 by his first wife, all of whom died young; 11 by his second wife. In 1852, when he was 86 years of age, he walked from Tilford to Godalming, a distance of seven miles, to see a match between England and Godalming. Billy" must have deserved his name still more in his old age. He was the last survivor of the famous Hambledon Club, a club who brought into the field an eleven composed of the most famous players of the last century, and among them Beldham was a shining light.

Old Nyren says of him, "We come to the finest batter of his own, or perhaps of any age. William was a close set, active man, standing about 5-ft. 8½-in. He had light coloured hair, and we called him 'Silver Billy.' No one within my recollection could stop a ball better, or make more brilliant hits all over the ground. Wherever the ball was bowled, there she was hit away, and in the most severe, venomous style. Besides this, he was so



WILLIAM BELDHAM.

remarkably safe a player; he was safer than the Bank, for no mortal ever thought of doubting Belham's stability, He received his instructions from a ginger-bread baker, at Farnham, of the name of Harry Hall. . . . . He would get in at the balls and hit them away in gallant style; yet in this single feat, I think I have known him excelled: but when he could cut them at the point of his bat, he was in his glory: and upon my life their speed was as the speed of thought. One of the most beautiful sights that can be imagined, was to see him make himself up to It was the beau ideal of grace, animation, and concentrated energy. In this peculiar exhibition of elegance and vigour, the nearest approach to him I think was Lord Frederick Beauclerk. Upon one occasion, at Marylebone, I remember these two admirable batters being in together, and though Beldham was then verging towards his climacteric, yet both were excited to a competition, and the display of talent that was exhibited between them that day was the most interesting sight of its kind I should not forget, among his other I ever witnessed. excellences, that Beldham was one of the best judges of a short run I ever knew: as a general fieldsman there were few better: he could take any post in the field; latterly he chose slip. He was a good change bowler too."

WILLIAM LAMBERT.—He first played for Surrey in 1801. Hardly ever was there a more complete all-round player, for he excelled in bowling, batting, fielding, keeping wicket, and also in single wicket matches. He used to hold his bat over his shoulder, and his hitting was tremendous. It is said that "the bowler, instead of attacking him, seemed always to be at his mercy." He once scored two innings of 100 in one match. making 107 not out, and also 157 against two such bowlers as Budd and Howard. He had enormous hands and was a very fine field. Lambert played a single wicket match at Lord's in 1810, which made a great sensation. Osbaldestone and Lambert were to play Lord F. Beauclerk and T. C. Howard for a wager of £100. On the morning of the match Osbaldestone was too ill to play, and wished to postpone the game: but the other side would not hear of it. Practically therefore Lambert played the other two men, and beat them. It was a wonderful performance, for the two opponents were first-class cricketers. When Lord F. Beauclerk went in, Lambert purposely bowled wides to him "in order to put him out of temper." In this he succeeded and won his match. (It must be remembered that in those days

1

wides did not count, and did not form part of any score till 1927. No doubt this is partly accounted for by the fact that the old underhand bowlers never bowled wides, and it was not worth while making a rule about them).

### SINGLE WICKET MATCH.

LORD'S, JULY 6TH AND 7TH, 1810.

		b Howard retired				
<b>L</b> .11-	1.24.		57		halla bita	24
Lord F. Beauclerk 42		a & & Tambout	01		balls hits	
T. C. Howard 8	5	b Lambert	3	•••	106 77 b La	mbert 24
			_			
		•	24			42

"Osbaldestone's mother sat by in her carriage and enjoyed the match: and then," said Beldham, "Lambert was called to the carriage, and bore away a paper parcel: some said it was a gold watch: some suspected bank notes, but trust Lambert to keep his own secrets. We were all curious, but no one ever knew.'

(Pycroft's "Cricket Field.")

Another name I pick out as a testimony to old Surrey cricket. I have mentioned T. Walker, surnamed "Old Everlasting." His first recorded match is in 1786. He was one of those who could never be venturesome, often going in first and carrying out his bat after staying at the wickets several hours. So cautious was he that he is reported to have once received 170 balls from David Harris without making a single run. There is an amusing account given of him by John Nyren, describing his appearance in no complimentary terms, "Never was there such an unadulterated rustic . . . his figure was hard . . . long spider legs . . . his skin was like the rind of an old oak and as sapless . . . his knuckles were rarely knocked about, but he never showed blood. . . . He was also a very slow runner, and toiled like a tar on horseback, every member flying to the four winds . . . Noah Mann, who could go a great pace between wickets, often in a long hit caught Tom up, and patting him on the back said, "you are rightly called Walker, for you were never a runner." On one occasion, on the Marylebone ground, I remember Tom going in first, and Lord Frederick Beauclerk giving him the first four balls, all of an excellent length. First four or last four made no difference to Tom, he was always the same cool, collected fellow. Every ball he dropped down just before his bat. Off went his Lordship's white hat dash upon the ground (his constant action when disappointed) calling him at the same time 'an old beast.' 'I doant care what ee zays' said Tom, when one close by asked him if he had heard Lord Frederick call him an old beast. No, Tom was not the man to be flustered," The slowness with which Walker scored reminds me of one whom I knew well of whom it was said that "he was in for an hour making three runs, and then he was in for three-quarters of an hour making no more"! Tom Walker's bat, a strange antediluvian kind of machine used to be kept at Lord's as a curiosity. and is there still I believe. There were some other mighty men of renown, Robinson, Osbaldestone, J. Sherman. With the help of such a team Surrey continued to play all England with good success until 1817, when England grew to be too strong: for Mr. Budd and Lord F. Beauclerk were then at their best. a word about the above three.

R. Robinson was born near Farnham, he played left handed, and was a tremendous hitter: His prowess was all the more remarkable because he could only catch with his left hand, the fingers of the other hand having been burnt off when a child. He was called "Long Robin," being 6-ft. 1-in. high. On one occasion poor Robinson was somewhat ignominiously treated. In the middle of a match someone questioned the size of his bat, and he had to stand by (very angry) whilst it was being shaved down to the proper limits. He is said to have invented spikes. "He had them on one foot and of a monstrous length." His bat, with a handle grooved to fit his fingers and strengthened with iron, was long kept at Lord's and may be there still. Robinson certainly seems to have been of an inventive nature, for he used to wear pads made of thin boards fastened on at an angle. When the ball hit them it glanced off with a loud report; and this used to make people laugh so much that he was compelled to discontinue their use.

G. OSBALDESTONE was a well-known Etonian and Oxford man: famous for all kinds of sport: a hunter, steeple chaser, pigeon shot, billiard player, as well as cricketer. In November, 1831, carrying 11-stone 2-lbs., he rode 200 miles in eight hours and forty-two minutes. He seems to have played for Surrey, and was a tremendously fast underhand bowler: Report says that with even two long stops, and one of them J. Sherman, he was

expensive to his side.

J. Sherman was father of Tom Sherman, who played for Surrey about 1846. Even when 63 years old, he played for Manchester against Sheffield in 1852, completing 44 seasons. He enabled Mr. Osbaldestone to bowl by acting long stop—and in one Match, he threw out three men who were attempting short runs. Sherman had a large family—21 children—but after Beldham's accomplishment this must be looked upon as a very moderate household among Surrey Cricketers! Let me sum up: In early years of this century, Surrey Cricket was supported by the following:—T. Walker, H. Walker, John and James Wells, W. Beldham, R. Robinson, Barton, Lambert, Sparks, Bently, Harding, Bridger, L. Powell, John and James Sherman, and Crawte. And if any one wishes to know more of these worthies, let him look in Lillywhite's "Scores" and in Pycroft's "Cricket Field."

### THE MONTPELIER CLUB.

Old inhabitants of Kennington can remember that cricket was played on the Common (now the Park) when the "Wednesday Club" and the "Thursday Club" were in existence. Players associated themselves partly according to their position in society, and partly according to their degree of prowess, one set playing on Wednesday and the other on Thursday, as the names of the clubs denote. The landlord of the "Horns" lent the marquees, and doubtless provided the luncheons. I can get no information about the matches on Kennington Common beyond the fact that they were played there and that good men were members of the clubs. But soon the Common was found to "The Bee Hive" grounds in Walworth. Here the Montpelier Club was formed about the year 1840, and some very good matches were played.

In 1779 there was a landlord at "The Bee Hive" Tavern in Walworth named Keen, after whom Keen's Row is named. At the end of the last century Mr. Keen built a large mansion on his property called Walworth House (the Police Station is now built on the site of it): some years afterwards this house came into the hands of Mr. Carter, a medical man with a large practice. Mr. Carter cut off a portion of his grounds for building purposes, and the street erected there was called Carter Street. On one side of it "The Bee Hive" Tavern was also erected; and it had for a time the double name of "The Bee Hive and Cricketers," when

the landlord of the Tavern was a Mr. Groom. The ground adjoining the Tavern was not then built upon; it was called Wheeler's Fields and Lorrimore or Lothammoore. The gardens attached to the Tavern were laid out by a Mr. Bendal as a market garden, but afterwards as a place of resort, and extended over an area of five acres. The old Tavern was a long low building with a railed gallery, covered with a verandah along its front. The floor of this gallery formed the roof of the bar, and between the windows of the house were suspended large turtle shells. In the Tavern there used to be kept an "ale yard," a long glass vessel, out of which it was very hard to drink without splashing the face. Round the gardens were wooden arbours where people drank tea, &c. In these grounds, in 1799, on Monday, September 2nd, the Volunteers were presented with a set of colours; and when peace was proclaimed the flags were nung above the Lord's Table in old Newington Bendal used to live in a little cottage near a maze which he had made: it is described as looking like a mansion in a toy city. Near the cottage was a stream with a bridge connecting the house with Wheeler's Fields. In these grounds, in 1824, was exhibited the balloon and car in which Mr. Harris and Miss Stocks ascended from the Eagle Tavern, City Road, on May 25th. The balloon descended near Beddington, and Harris was found suffocated by an escape of the gas. The old Tavern and maze and bridge over the stream bring back to us days now long departed. Dickens, in his "Tale of Two Cities," makes the faithful old clerk live in Walworth, in just such a toy house with a bridge as I have described above.

In the "Bee Hive" grounds the Montpelier Club played its matches; and perhaps it was the strongest club on this side of the Thames. A friend tells me that the "Montpelier" were rivals of the "Islington Albion." I have succeeded in unearthing a match between these very clubs. The best Montpelier players were as follows: Baker, Gardner, Colston, Hayter, Reed, Garland (2 of them), Peto, Rogers, Lewis, Brockwell, Whiting. Mr. Baker was a very good all-round cricketer. Hayter Reed was a wicket keeper, and was famous for his enormous hands. Brockwell was a bowler. Perhaps the subjoined score may bring back to some a memory of cricket in a spot which is now a

mass of houses.

Lillywhite in his "scores," where I have found this match (vol. iii., p. 20), adds, "It may be remarked that about this time

both these clubs contained the names of several really good amateur players; some indeed almost first-rate."

At the "Bee Hive" Ground at Walworth, June 29th, 1841.

### MONPELIER.

	COLVE	تتتيد	Lv.			
FIRST INNINGS.					SECOND INNINGS.	
A. K. George, Esq., c Heath, b	Sande	erson	20		c Heath, b Cox	10
C. Whyting, Esq., c Gibson, b					b Luckhurst	6
C. Colston, Esq., c Gibson, b Co			38			
—Wood, Ésq., lbw, b Cox			8		b Saunders	1
W. Foulds, Esq., lbw, b Luckh	arst		14		cHeath, b Cox	2
T. C. Lewis, Esq., b Luckhurst			22		,	
W. Baker, Esq., b Luckhurst	•••		0		not out	31
J. Peto, Esq., c Cox, b	•••		3	•••		
-Garrett, Esq., b Sanderson		•••	3			
C. Lockner, Esq., b Cox			14		b Sanderson	. 1
—Trimmell, Esq., not out	•••		19		- 2020000	
Byes 2	. wide		28	•••	Bye 1, wides 10	11
2708 2	, ,,				25 1, W1405 10	
			170			62
						-
ISLIN	GTON			ON.		•
ISLIN FIRST INNINGS.	GTON			ON.	SECOND INNINGS.	•
	GTON			ON.	SECOND INNINGS.	•
FIRST INNINGS. — Saunders, Esq., run out	GTON 			ON. 	SECOND INNINGS.	•
FIRST INNINGS.  — Saunders, Esq., run out  — Longhurst, Esq., b Coltson		• Al	LBI		SECOND INNINGS.	<b>.</b>
FIRST INNINGS.  — Saunders, Esq., run out  — Longhurst, Esq., b Coltson J. Dewdney, Esq., c Foulds, b	 Colsto	• Al	LBI0		SECOND INNINGS.	<b>52</b>
— Saunders, Esq., run out — Longhurst, Esq., b Coltson J. Dewdney, Esq., c Foulds, b J. Heath, c Garrett, b Coltson	 Colsto	• Al	LBI0 4 15 4	 	SECOND INNINGS.	~ <b>=</b>
FIRST INNINGS.  — Saunders, Esq., run out  — Longhurst, Esq., b Coltson J. Dewdney, Esq., c Foulds, b J. Heath, c Garrett, b Coltson T. Pobjoy, Esq., b Lewis	 Colston		LBI 4 15 4 6	 	SECOND INNINGS.	~ <b>-</b>
FIEST INNINGS.  — Saunders, Esq., run out  — Longhurst, Esq., o Coltson J. Dewdney, Esq., o Foulds, b J. Heath, o Garrett, b Coltson T. Pobjoy, Esq., b Lewis  — Jardine, Esq., run out	Colston	  	LBIC 4 15 4 6 11 0		SECOND INNINGS.	~ <b>-</b>
FIEST INNINGS.  — Saunders, Esq., run out  — Longhurst, Esq., b Coltson J. Dewdney, Esq., c Foulds, b J. Heath, c Garrett, b Coltson T. Pobjoy, Esq., b Lewis  — Jardine, Esq., run out  — Gibson, Esq., lbw, b Colston	Colsto	 n	LBI 4 15 4 6		SECOND INNINGS.	~ <b>-</b>
— Saunders, Esq., run out — Longhurst, Esq., b Coltson J. Dewdney, Esq., c Foulds, b J. Heath, c Garrett, b Coltson T. Pobjoy, Esq., b Lewis — Jardine, Esq., run out — Gibson, Esq., lbw, b Colston — Cox, Esq., b Coltson	Colston	  	LBIC 4 15 4 6 11 0 2		SECOND INNINGS.	~ <b>-</b>
— Saunders, Esq., run out — Longhurst, Esq., b Coltson J. Dewdney, Esq., c Foulds, b J. Heath, c Garrett, b Coltson T. Pobjoy, Esq., b Lewis — Jardine, Esq., run out — Gibson, Esq., lbw, b Colston Cox, Esq., b Coltson J. H. Thompson, Esq., c Peto,	Colston	  	LBIC 4 15 4 6 11 0 2 3 3		SECOND INNINGS.	
FIRST INNINGS.  — Saunders, Esq., run out  — Longhurst, Esq., b Coltson J. Dewdney, Esq., c Foulds, b J. Heath, c Garrett, b Coltson T. Pobjoy, Esq., b Lewis  — Jardine, Esq., run out  — Gibson, Esq., lbw, b Colston  — Cox, Esq., b Coltson  J. H. Thompson, Esq., c Peto,  — Sanderson, Esq., not out	Colston	 n  son	LBIC 4 15 4 6 11 0 2 3 11		SECOND INNINGS.	
FIEST INNINGS.  — Saunders, Esq., run out  — Longhurst, Esq., b Coltson J. Dewdney, Esq., c Foulds, b J. Heath, c Garrett, b Coltson T. Pobjoy, Esq., b Lewis  — Jardine, Esq., run out  — Gibson, Esq., lbw, b Colston  — Cox, Esq., b Coltson  — J. H. Thompson, Esq., c Peto, — Sanderson, Esq., not out  — Luckhurst, Esq., b George	Colston	 n son	LBIC 4 15 4 6 11 0 2 3 3		SECOND INNINGS.	

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## CHAPTER XVI. KENNINGTON OVAL.

The earliest mention I can find of any event connected with the Oval is in 1818. The Times of May 12th, says, "Yesterday, about three o'clock, the body of another man was found drowned in the creek, near Kennington Oval, within 100-yards of the place where the body of Mr. Tinkler, late landlord of the "White Horse," Brixton Hill, was found. The body was carried to the "Clayton Arms," in Clayton Street, where the other body lay, and was shortly afterwards recognized to be a porter in the employ of a shop-keeper in the neighbourhood, who, it is supposed, was drowned on Friday night in the creek, as he was returning home to his employers with a truck full of empty The truck was found next morning shattered to pieces, and all the bottles broken. Amongst the many sufferers from the flood we have to notice Mr. Perry, the brewer; Mr. Fenton, a brick-maker; and Mr. Martin, the market-gardener; who has lost to the amount of £100, all his garden being flooded." The river Effra, which ran on the south side of the Oval, must have overflowed its banks and caused this destruction. Effra now is safely stowed away in a large drain made in 1880, to obviate any further annoyance: but the river has sent up to the surface of the earth a substitute. The high terraced banks, which are so much appreciated by sight-seers in the Oval, are composed of the soil dug out of the place where the river now runs. It was a great boon to the Contractors to have a place so near to shoot their earth, and they consented, in return for this favour, to make the banks in the Oval, which are now concrete terraces, and turf them free of charge. If ever there was a mutual benefit to two contracting parties, this was one: and if ever there was needed a reason to bless the Effra on its departure it is afforded every time the inhabitants of Kennington have obtained a good seat for a great match.

Let us now imagine that we are entering the Oval in the year 1845. In the spring of that year an interesting ceremony was performed in the month of March (according to an entry in the diary of the late Mr. Briant, of the "Horns,") The first sod was laid of the present Cricket Ground. The year before it was, and had long been, a market garden, of the same shape, of which

the Duchy of Cornwall were landlords.

In 1844, the "Bee-Hive" Ground, in Walworth, was taken for building purposes, and the Montpelier Club obtained the lease of the Oval. The late Mr. Baker, of Kennington Road, a very fine all-round Cricketer, entered into negociations with the Duchy, as the owners would not transact business at that time with a Club as such. A lease was obtained for 31 years, at £120 per annum, and the taxes amounted to about £20 more. Then  $3\frac{1}{6}$ -acres of the ground were turfed; and the remaining 9-acres were sown. Mr. Houghton came forward, as President of the Montpelier Club, and became proprietor of the ground, whilst eight gentlemen of the Montpelier Club guaranteed the rent in case of any failure in getting the money in other ways. The first Secretary was Mr. W. Denison, a well-known man in Cricketing circles in those days. It must be confessed, however, that the first few years were by no means prosperous for Cricket First, the old Montpelier Club suffered. They played matches here for about two years, but Houghton by degress tried to confine them to one corner of the ground: the result was that they left the Oval and took a ground where Coldharbour Lane now stands. Here they played for a year or two, but finally the Club was merged in the County Club and broke up.

In these early years the South London Club also played their

matches upon the Oval.

One question is worth answering. Has the Oval been ever in danger of being built upon? Yes: about the year 1851, Mr. Driver, the solicitor to the Duchy was bringing a bill into Parliament to enable the Duchy to build two half crescents, but the Prince Consort, who was administering the estate for the young Prince, was strongly in favour of keeping the Oval an open space. He argued that as the old Kennington Common had been taken for a public Park, so that the cricketers could no longer use it, it was only right that another space should be found as near as possible, where South Londoners might enjoy the game: and he further declared that the Oval should be available for Cricket at a light rental so long as the people of South London wished to uphold Cricket.

I have said that neither Houghton nor Denison were very successful. Denison was also connected with Clarke's itinerant eleven and ran himself into difficulties with them so that he was not often to be seen in the Oval. In other respects he was a good cricketer: Lord Bessborough says (in a letter written to me), "The best bowler in the Montpelier Club was Denison, the

first man who had the pluck to bowl round arm slows in good He played for me several times, among other matches. at Canterbury for the Gentlemen of England. He was a Times Reporter on legal and Parliamentary subjects; he also wrote for the Press on Cricket, and was the first Secretary of the Surrey Club." But owing to unfortunate circumstances he was not able to do his duty properly as Secretary, and the work fell upon Houghton who was hardly the man for his post. The President discovered in a short time that the ground did not pay its expenses, and he introduced other amusements which earned him somewhat of a bad name. Among other things he announced a Walking Match of 1000 miles in 1000 hours. A pedestrian named Manx tried to perform the feat, and finally retired before he had concluded the match, after walking for some little time in poultices. Then Houghton started a Poultry Show in the Oval, and caused annoyance to a great many people; but he was in some sense proprietor of the ground, and it was difficult to see how to make him resign his place.

This brings us to the origin and growth of the Surrey Club. A Meeting of the old Montpelier members was held in 1844: among the names of those present I find C. H. Hoare, W. Baker, T. Lewis, C. Coltson, J. Burrup, junr., W. Pickering, W. Houghton, N. Felix and W. Denison. Old Mr. Ward (a household name among Cricketers in those days) presided, and it was agreed to found a County Club. In the autumn of the same year (1844) a dinner was given at the "Horns" to collect members and start the Club in good earnest. The Hon. F. Ponsonby (now Lord Bessborough) came over expressly from Ireland to be present and to take the chair: and about 70 members of the Montpelier Club enrolled themselves in the County Club.

The first match ever played on the ground was between Mitcham and the Montpelier Club in 1845: the wickets were pitched across the ground; and strange to say the match resulted in a tie. The first few years were not very successful. In 1846, Fuller Pilch, of immortal memory, came and offered his services to Surrey. But the leading members of the Club nobly determined to raise their County into note by the help of men who were born in Surrey and they refused to play Pilch. The Hon. Frederick Ponsonby said at the time that if they only persevered, Surrey one day would be a match for any County. Mr. Napper of Dorking, went even further and declared that one day Surrey should beat England. Both these prophecies were verified within

a very few years. But let me continue my narrative: the Oval was in those days surrounded by a ditch and a quickset hedge. For a year or two the Club did not prosper much: There were internal jealousies, and dissensions, and dissatisfaction with the management, and above all, the money was not plentiful. At the beginning of one season, Mr. Denison (the Secretary) announced that the debt amounted to £70 before any of the yearly expenses were considered: and that it seemed impossible to play any first-class matches, that many of the members were retiring from the Club. The meeting almost decided to break up the Club; and I suppose, had such a vote been carried, the Oval would have been at once built over and some very happy memories of Kennington would never have existed at all. It is to the present Lord Bessborough that we owe the continuance of Cricket upon the Oval. He was Vice-President at the time, and suggested that the £70 should be paid off by allowing six gentlemen to become Life Members by paying down £12 a piece. A gentleman present next said "who would pay £12 to be Life Member of a bankrupt Club?" "I will" said Old Mr. Cressingham, one of the oldest members: and "I will" said five others, of whom Mr. Ponsonby was one. Lord Bessborough, in writing of this memorable meeting, adds-"Looking back to that distant day I fear I have been a bad bargain to the Club by becoming a Life Member for £12." But we may add upon the other side.— "Had you not spoken up on the occasion it would have been a still worse bargain for the Club."

Mr. J. Burrup, who became Secretary in 1847, saw that the only way to save the ground was to get rid of the proprietor, Mr. Houghton. But how could this be done if Houghton was unwilling to depart? Mr. Burrup brought forward and carried a motion that the Club should play no matches at all upon the Oval: and then Houghton was driven to part with his right to the field. The lease now fell into the hands of the Surrey Club who have kept it ever since. The new lease given to the Club was granted by the Duchy of Cornwall in the names of C. H. Hoare, A. Marshall and H. Marshall, for a term of 7, 14 or 21 years. The arrangements in those early days were, that players were paid £3 a match if they were beaten, and £4 if they won. Entrance to the ground was never more than 6d.

In 1849, 1850, 1851, Surrey won every County Match, and in 1852, the County beat England. Perhaps it will interest some of my readers to see the score of the first match that was ever played between Surrey and Nottinghamshire.

# SURREY v. NOTTINGHAM. AT THE OVAL, JULY 17th and 18th, 1851.

		SU	KKI	GY.		
FIRST INNIN	rgs.				SECOND INNINGS.	
Julius Cæsar, b Nixon	•••		0		st Brown, b Tinley	. 0
T. Sherman, run out	•••		6		st Brown, b W. Clarke	0
G. Brockwell, b Grundy	•••	•••	14		b W. Clarke	. 2
W. Caffyn, c S. Parr, b	W. Cla	rke	29		st Brown, b A. Clarke	. 14
W. Martingell, b Nixon	•••		1		lbw, b Tilney	23
N. Felix, Esq., c Guy, b	Nixon		4	•••	b Grundy	10
J. Chester, b W. Clarke	•••	•••	42		c Brown, b Tinley	14
T. Lockyer, c G. Parr, b	Grund	l <del>y</del>	15		run out	20
C. H. Hoare, Esq., b Gr	undy	٠	5		b Grundy	15
J. Heath, not out			0		lbw, b Grundy	1
D. Day, b Grundy			1	•••	not out	1
. Bye 0, leg b	yes 4	•••	4		no ball 1, bye 1, l-bye 4	6
• , •	•	-			, , ,	
			121		•	106
	NOTT	ING	HA	MSE	HRE.	
FIRST INNIN	GB.				SECOND INNINGS.	
F. Tinley, c Cæsar, b Day	٧		5		c Felix, b Sherman	0
J. Guy, b Sherman,			0		b Martingell	15
George Parr, b Day			1		b Sherman	23
Butler Parr, b Sherman			4		c Hoare, b Sherman	16
J. Grundy, b Day			6		c and b Sherman	13
Samuel Parr, b Day			10		b Sherman	3
C. Brown, b Sherman			13	• • • •	b Sherman	7
George Butler, not out			3		run out	5
T. Nixon, c Felix, b Day			1		c and b Martingell	9
Alfred Clarke, b Day			_		11	Ō
Autor Clarke, D Day			0	•••	not out	
W. Clarke, b Day		•••	0	•••		_
W. Clarke, b Day	•••				c Lockyer, b Sherman	4 9
W. Clarke, b Day Leg byes 2, wide	•••	•••	0	•••		4
W. Clarke, b Day	•••	•••	0	•••	c Lockyer, b Sherman	4

Surrey won their first match against Notts. by 75 runs. Mr. J. Burrup says that in all those years they were victorious with Day and Sherman as their first bowlers and Martingell as change. There are names in this eleven worthy of some mention.

N. Felix.—The real name of this gentleman was Nicholas Wanostrocht; born in 1804, in Camberwell, he played for the Gentlemen against the Players from 1831 to 1852. It is remarkable therefore that he began his career as a great player as late as 30. It is said that he learnt his play by practice at the catapult. Between the wickets he was slow, but as a bat he was most brilliant. There is a scarce book, "Felix on the Bat," which gives the views of this great player on batting. His cutting was tremendously hard. Pycroft says that Lord Frederick Beauclerk found fault with Felix's picture of "the

cut" because it seemed to come too much from the shoulder and not almost exclusively from the wrist. "Excuse me, my Lord," said Mr. Fexix, "that's not a cut, but only a pat." I suppose he who can cut a good length ball with shoulder and wrist will do the most execution, but it takes more time than to hit with wrist only. Felix invented "the Catapult:" but from the picture in his book it is a different thing from the machine to which I and many old Harrowians have had to bat under the care of the Hon. Robert Grimston. Felix also invented the tubular india-rubber gloves with which we are all familiar, and he sold the invention to Dark. He was a left-handed batsman and played in many Surrey matches.

In 1846, two single wicket matches were played between Mynn and Felix. They created the greatest interest, and

thousands went to watch the game.

AT LORD'S, JUNE 18th, 1846.

Nicholas Felix, Esq. ... 15 11 b Mynn 0 ... 247 175 b Mynn 3 wide ... 1

Mynn won in one innings and one run. Felix challenged him to play. Just look also at the second innings. Felix could only get 3 runs in what would be 62 of our overs. Banks and Swan fielded for Mynn: C. G. Taylor and Bondier for Felix.

ANOTHER MATCH PLAYED AT BROMLEY, SEPT. 29th, 1846.

balls hits runs balls hits runs
65 24 b Mynn 1 ... 191 51 b Mynn 0
wides ... 2 wides 8, no balls 1 ... 9

balls hits runs balls hits runs

A. Mynn, Esq. ... 31 28 b Felix 4 ... 21 20 not out 9

Mynn won by one wicket. Look again at the second innings of Felix: after playing 191 balls he owed his score to Mynn's wides! Mynn's bowling was so good that he was almost bound to win. R. Broughton and C. H. Hoare fielded for Mynn: and R. Broughton and C. Meynott for Felix.

W. CAFFYN first played in 1850, was born at Reigate in 1828.

He was one of the best bats in England and renowned for hisplendid cutting. He went out to Australia with the fire English eleven and settled there. Doubtless it is in gree part owing to this old Surrey Cricketer that Australia has been able to teach the old country a lesson or two.

T. LOCKYER one of the most celebrated wicket keepers eve known.

In 1852, Surrey played England with the result recorde below. The last even handed match of this kind was in 1817.

#### SURREY v. ENGLAND.

PLAYED AT LORD'S, JULY 12th, 18th and 14th, 1852. ENGLAND.

#### FIRST INNINGS. J. Dean, b Sherman 8 b Caffyn W. Clarke, st Lockyer, b Sherman not out ••• A. Haygarth, Esq., c & b Day... 23 b Martingell ••• st Lockyer, b Day... J. Guy, run out ... ... 64 ••• ••• G. Parr, c Cæsar, b Sherman T. Box, b Martingell ... 48 c Lockyer, b Martingell ... ••• 42 ... b Sherman ... A. Mynn, Esq., b Day ... G. Chatterton, b Day ... J. Grundy, c Caffyn, b Day c Sherman, b Martingell... 1 ... hit w, b Caffyn ... b Sherman ... ... T. Nixon, c Day, b Sherman ... 2 ... b Martingell 9 ... b Martingell J. Bickley, not out Byes 3, leg byes 12, no balls 2 17 ... Bye 1, leg byes 4 wide 1 218 1( SURREY. FIRST INNINGS. SECOND INNINGS. Julius Cæsar, b Clarke ... 0 b Grundy ... J. Chester, b Grundy c & b Grundy G. Brockwell, b Grundy... run out ••• W. Caffyn, b Grundy not out ••• ••• Martingell, st Chatterton, b Clarke 5 b Grundy ... ••• N. Felix, Esq., b Grundy C. H. Hoare, Esq., run out 26 c & b Dean... ••• 3 b Clarke ... ••• T. Lockyer, b Clarke J. Heath, b Bickley 36 b Grundy ... 35 not out T. Shearman, b Grundy ... 0 c Parr, b Clarke D. Day, not out ... 12 Bye 1, leg bye 1, no ball 1 3 Bye 1, leg bye 1 196

Surrey won by two wickets.

It is remarkable that Mynn was not put on to bowl at all. It this match are seen the names of almost all the best cricketers of

the past generation; and Julius Cæsar led off his side with a pair of spectacles.

In the spring of 1855 Mr. J. Burrup resigned the post of Secretary into the hands of his brother, Mr. W. Burrup. In 1858 the present Pavilion was built at the side and in front of the old market gardener's house: there seems to have been a garden enclosed by a wall in old days when the place was cultivated. The present Pavilion is built in the old garden, and the site of the wall can still be seen by a line in the turf in front of the Pavilion, because the old foundations exercise a bad influence on the grass in dry weather. In 1855 the Club did not number more than 230 members with an income scarcely £500 a year: but in 1861 the members were nearly 1000 and the income about £2000.

In 1863 Surrey again became very great in the cricket field. Lane, Miller, Burbidge, Mortlock joined the eleven, and helped to win the matches.

W. Mortlock was born in Clayton Street, 1832: He was first a boy on the ground, and then, when he played he succeeded John Heath as long stop in the Surrey eleven. By occupation he was a ball maker.

I have given below the great match in 1880. I think the first day's cricket was the best and most delightful, from an Englishman's point of view, that I have ever witnessed. Look at the list of the English Eleven, how few "Players" there are in it. It would be composed chiefly of Players now.

### ENGLAND v. AUSTRALIA.

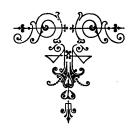
PLAYED ON THE OVAL, SEPTEMBER 6th, 7th and 8th, 1880,

#### ENGLAND.

		٠.					
FIRST INNINGS.				8E00	ND IN	TNINGS.	
Dr. W. G. Grace, b Palmer	•••	152		not out	•••		9
Dr. E. M. Grace, c Alexander, b Banne	erma	n 36	•••	b Boyle	•••	•••	0
A. P. Lucas, Esq., b Bannerman		55	•••	c Blackh	am, l	b Palme	er 2
Barnes, b Alexander	•••	28		c Moule,	ЪBo	yle	5
Lord Harris, c Bonner, b Alexander	•••	52				•	
F. Penn, Esq., b Bannerman	•••	23	•••	not out		'	27
A. G. Steel, Esq., c Boyle, b Moule	•••	42					
Hon. A Lyttleton, not out	•••	11		b Palmer	·	•••	13
G. F. Grace, Esq., c Bannermann, b I	Moule	e 0		b Palmer	٠	•••	0
Shaw, b Moule	•••	0					
Morley, run out		2					
Byes 8, leg byes 11	•••	19		No	ball	•••	1
. , , ,							_
		420					77
						0	

AUSTRA	LIA.		
FIRST INNINGS.		SECOND	INNINGS.
W. L. Murdock, c Barnes, b Steel	0	) not out	153
A. Bannerman, b Morley	32	c Lucas, b	Shaw 8
T. V. Groube, b Steel	11	l c Shaw, b l	Morley 0
P. S. M'Donnell, c Barnes, b Morley .	27	lbw , b W.	G. Grace 43
J. Slight, c G. F. Grace, b Morley .	11	c Harris, b	W. G. Grace 0
J. M. Blackham, c and b Morley	(	)c E.M.Grac	e, b Morley 19
G. J. Bonner, c G. F. Grace b Shaw .	2	2 b Steel	16
H. F. Boyle, not out	36	run out	3
		6 c and b Ste	
G. Alexander, c W. G. Grace, b Steel .	6	3 c Shaw, b	Morley 33
W. H. Moule, c Morley, b W. G. Grace.			
Byes 9, leg byes 3	12	Bye 7, leg	byes 7 14
	140	<b>-</b>	327

England won by five wickets.



#### CHAPTER XVII.

#### LORD BESSBOROUGH ON CRICKET.

Perhaps there is no living authority on cricket greater than Lord Bessborough. Years ago he figured in all the best matches as the Hon. Fred. Ponsonby, and now he has become a link between the past and present race of cricketers. I myself owe him a deep debt of gratitude for many hours' "coaching" at Harrow. It was, I think, a happy thought to ask him his opinion upon many a point of the game. The questions and

answers are given below.

Did you know W. Lambert, the old Surrey player?—"I never saw Lambert. He had been excluded from Lord's and from other great matches, but he continued to play in the country for many years, and Mr. R. Grimston once played in a match with him in Surrey. He was old then, but Taylor told me he must have been a very fine bat and was still a good bowler. On talking over the old players with old Clarke, the Nottingham bowler, he said, 'Lord Frederick Beauclerk and Beldham were very good bats, but Lambert was the best batsman I ever saw, and Pilch comes next.' Old Mr. Bowdler, an old Winchester cricketer, also told me he thought Lambert was the best bat he had ever seen till Pilch came out. That was before Grace's day. He used to stand with his left foot out a very long way and then draw it up rapidly on playing. He thought it put the bowler off his pitch."

Did you ever see Beldham play? — "I never saw him play; but I always heard cricketers of old times speak of him as a fair rival of Lord Frederick. I saw him once at Lord's when he was a very old man and came to see a Gentlemen and Players' match. I felt very much complimented when I was told after my innings by Walter Mynn that he heard Beldham say that was 'something like hitting.'"

How should you describe Felix as a bat?—"Felix became a first-rate batsman and a well-known cricketer when he was old for the game, but young in intellect, health, strength, and spirits. When I first saw him play, in 1834, he was a beautiful and a splendid hitter. His positions and action were magnificent, but he was then very unsafe. He played with his bat held over his shoulder, and a quick shooter was most likely to be fatal to

of the state of grounds. The introduction of pads and gloves also makes comparison almost impossible. All I know is that there have been remarkably good players as long as I have understood cricket, and that, as might be expected, the number of very good men now are as hundreds to one compared with even 20 years ago."

4. What has been the effect of Australian Cricket upon English Players?-" As a general observation I have said, and still say, that English Cricket was saved from degenerating (in play) by the coming of the Australians. Just before they came, the play of the gentlemen was good—i.e., batting and fielding—but the Players were going off. There was much conceit at the time as to the play of the crack men being super-excellent, whereas the general play of the Players was certainly becoming spoiled by their engaging so many twenty-two's. Among the latter there were often some very good men, but the sides were filled up with poor performers, particularly in fielding. The consequence was that the Eleven went in for hard hitting, well up in air, and they trusted to bad fielding to escape being caught. I saw some of those matches in the days just before the Australians came, and watched the style of play that was coming in. There was another point in which the Australians showed the English Players and gentlemen that they had something to learn, and that was in bowling. I have no doubt but that English cricket has improved immensely by playing with the Australians."

### CHAPTER XVIII.

#### CRICKET ODDITIES.

SMALL Scorms.—It is of course one of the delights of cricket that you need never despair: the best side may be out for next to nothing. But in all my researches I have never been able to discover a match where an eleven was out for actually nothing. However, in "Lillywhite's Scores," the following single wicket match is given, and nothing can be more complete as far as it goes.

SINGLE WICKET MATCH, AT NEWENDEN, IN KENT, OCTOBER 5th. 1825.

FIVE OF KENT		Five of Sussi	ŝΧ.	
G. Tollhurst, b Warner	 0	J. Furner, b Ayerst		 0
T. Ayerst, b Warner	 0	T. Edwards, b Ayerst		 0
W. Hanson, b Warner	 0	T. Coppinger, b Averst		 0
R. Levitt, b Warner	 0	R. Moore, b Ayerst		 0
S. Maynard, lbw	 0	T. Warner, b Ayerst		 0
•	_	. •		_
	0	•		0

And so this match was played out; and yet neither side won, and they did not score the same number of runs! It is a puzzle worth putting to a friend. It is hardly necessary to state that Kent and Sussex of that day declare that though these gentlemen called themselves County players they were never recognised as having a right to represent their counties.

I will now give the nearest approach to a similar catastrophe in the case of an eleven. I cut out the score many years ago from some paper. It will not be necessary to give the whole match for the other innings were not sensational.

## HUNTINGDON GRAMMAR SCHOOL v. ST. MARY'S SCHOOL.

#### S. MARY'S CHOIR.—FIRST INNINGS.

Mr. W. Howard, c Bokenham, b Carper	nter		•••		0
Mr. E. Clarke, b White		•••			0
		•••	•••		0
	••	•••	•••	•••	0
Rev. R. Wright, c Connor, b Carpenter	•				0
Mr. I. Howard, c and b Carpenter .	••	•••	•••	•••	0
Mr. R. Thoday, c Ekins, b Carpenter .	••	•••		•••	0
Mr. C. Beresford, run out			•••		0
Mr. W. Wright, b White		•••			0
Mr. A. Crampton, not out					0
Mr. E. Hemsted, b Carpenter					0
Bye 1, No ball	, 1	•••		••••	T

few men who, after throwing 100-yards one way, could walk to the opposite end and throw the same distance back again.

Uncertainty of Cricket.—People who do not play cricket are sometimes apt to grumble at the amount of chance that enters into the game: as a matter of fact I think no game can take the highest rank unless it has two essential qualifications: it must give scope for unlimited skill and unlimited chance. Take either of these away and you lower your game into the second rank. For this reason, chess, though a great game, cannot be put quite in the first rank. Two games take the lead absolutely of all others—one for indoors, the other for the open air: whist and cricket. There are no games which so completely combine the above points. I have never seen the uncertainty of cricket better shown than in the Universities' match of 1870. Oxford was in for the second time; there were three wickets to fall and four runs to get! Many persons left the ground supposing the match was over: and so it was but not as they expected! Mr. Butler, the Oxford batsman, made a hard hit to leg which would have certainly gone for 4 had it not been half stopped by Mr. Ward's right hand, a left-handed bowler. runs to get and 3 wickets to fall; over is called: then Mr. Cobden bowls to Mr. Butler. Off the first ball Mr. Butler was caught at middle wicket. The next ball produced no result. Two more balls to the over and two men to defend the wickets and 2 runs to make it a tie! Cobden's next ball bowled the last man but one. It was Stewart (I think), the Oxford wicketkeeper, who then marched to the wickets to save his University from disaster: I wonder if he knew whether he walked on his head or his heels: to me it seemed as if Cobden rushed up to deliver his last ball with a ferocious energy: the ball was straight; Stewart hit wildly to square leg, and Cambridge won.

Extraordinary Occurrence.—In a match between the Dartford and Camberwell Clubs, about 1827, as Mr. Charles Hodsoll was playing a ball bowled by one of the Camberwell Club, the ball ran up the handle of his bat and disappeared: thinking it had rested in the folds of his jacket, or between it and his shirt, he shook himself but no ball appeared. The wicket-keeper stepped forward and at the same moment both persons saw that the ball had got into his pocket. The wicket-keeper endeavoured to take it out. Hodsoll resisted, and as he feared that the touch of the ball would be fatal to him as the striker, he started off round the field, the wicket-keeper in full pursuit, Hodsoll working the

ball by degrees out of its hiding place, and getting back before it could be thrown up to put him out. (Lillywhite, vol. i. xix.)

And now my task is done. I have begun with the history of the neighbourhood, and have ended with some notes on the greatest outdoor game in the world. He who plays it in the right spirit learns endurance, is taught to keep his temper under trying circumstances, gives up his own selfish interests for the sake of the general good, and practises himself in undergoing a hard day's work, when eye and hand and foot are hard put to it. to overcome rivals in healthy combat. And if a man is called to be captain of an eleven he learns in his youth how to manage men, to be quick in resolution, warm in commendation, a judge of character, and a tower of strength in the moment of discouragement. Need we add a word more to prove that cricket must even be the great English game. It is more than a game: it is an education. I am ready to own that had it not been for a long apprenticeship to this sport I should not have learnt some of the most priceless lessons of life—lessons which are indispensable for all, however high they may rise in Church or State. Some learn them in the study, some in "the tented field." of all is it to learn them by trying to do our duty both in the games and in the studies of our youth. Since success in after life depends upon character, English gentlemen must win their character by nobleness displayed in all their pursuits. Long may cricket continue to be the nursery for healthful, unselfish. openhanded, and generous-hearted young men. But, reader, if you think of playing for your own hand alone, if you bet and gamble over it, if you are content to be lazy over it, take my advice and give it up altogether. It is too noble a game to be approached in such a spirit: spoil it not for your contemporaries. Best of all, change your point of view and go and be a cricketer, who strengthens the better part of himself. both by his life's work and by his games.

These chapters on cricket have not been to the writer the least enjoyable part of this little book: indeed it has been a labour of love to dive into old books and bring to light the successes and the experiences of past generations of old sportsmen. It has been a delight to supply information to numberless friends in Kennington, some of whom I do not know even by name,

since the majority of them have been members of the Parish where the author has spent ten of the happiest and busiest years of his life.

THE END.



#### INDEX.

The index has been supplied by my old friend H. H. Quare, Esq., the last of many helpful acts undertaken for me whilst I was Vicar of Kennington. I cannot thank him too warmly for his aid on countless occasions.—H. H. T.

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The Frontispiece is from an old painting by Hogarth, being one of the 16 specially painted by him for the Proprietor of Vauxhall Gardens.

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